

Iran offers to mediate Egypt-Sudan row

TEHRAN (AFP) — Iranian President Ali Akbar Rafsanjani offered Wednesday to help settle the dispute between Egypt and Sudan as well as other conflicts in the African continent. Mr. Rafsanjani, in a meeting here with Ugandan Prime Minister Kato Musinguzi, also urged a stronger role for the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) to help resolve "tense" situations. "We are concerned about the tense situation in several African countries, notably that between Sudan and Egypt," the president said, according to a statement from his office. "The OAU should be more active and we are ready to cooperate with this organisation to resolve the problems." Egypt and Sudan dispute the Red Sea border area of Halai where they clashed last month as relations deteriorated following Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's accusations that Khartoum was behind a June 26 attempt to kill him (see page 2). Mr. Rafsanjani said he had made a similar proposal to the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) urging it to adopt "more practical measures" to end "injustices" against Bosnian Muslims.

Crown Prince pays tribute to King Hussein

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Wednesday sent a cable to His Majesty King Hussein congratulating him on the occasion of the Prophet Muhammad's birthday and the 43rd anniversary of the King's accession to the throne. Prince Hassan paid tribute to the King's leadership and his devotion to developing the Kingdom and serving the causes of the Arab and Islamic nations.

Bedoun demand return to Kuwait

BAGHDAD (AFP) — Thousands of stateless Arabs who were expelled to Iraq during the 1990-1991 Gulf crisis urged Kuwait on Wednesday to allow them to return home and acquire Kuwaiti nationality. "People who were expelled have the right to return to Kuwait and obtain Kuwaiti nationality," Hussein Fahd Al Anzi, representing the stateless Arabs as head of the Al Shab Al Haq League of Kuwait, told reporters. Kuwait expelled thousands of bedouns to Iraq after a U.S.-led coalition liberated the emirate from Iraqi occupation in February 1991. Some had been accused of collaborating with Iraq. They set up Al Shab Al Haq organisation here in October 1994 to press their demands for a return to Kuwait. Thousands staged a sit-in in October and November last year in southern Iraq to demand their right to return. Mr. Anzi added that "because they had no (Kuwaiti) passports, the members of the association had a lot of trouble leaving Iraq to travel throughout the world and publicise their fate."

Grateful Dead's Garcia dies

NOVATO, California (AFP) — Jerry Garcia, the leading member and guitarist of the rock group The Grateful Dead, has died, the Marin County sheriff's department said Wednesday. Garcia, 33, was found dead in the early hours of the morning in his room at a treatment centre for drug addicts, Dan Murphy of the sheriff's office said. He was found by a drug addiction counselor. Several attempts were made to revive the musician by a nurse and police officers, Mr. Murphy said, but without success. The Grateful Dead first rose to fame in the music world in the late 1960s.

Kurds in secret talks in Ireland

DUBLIN (R) — Rival Iraqi Kurdish factions opened U.S.-sponsored talks in Ireland on Wednesday to end a year of fighting that has killed about 3,000 people. Sources close to the talks said delegations of the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) were meeting in a hotel in Drogheda, about 40 kilometres north of Dublin. The United States has brokered the talks but says it is acting as a facilitator rather than a mediator. The U.S. embassy in Dublin could give no details of the talks and State Department officials in Washington said they would be making no statement until the negotiations end.

Aideed promises elections in 1998

MOGADISHU (AFP) — Warlord Mohammed Farah Aideed on Wednesday promised national elections for Somalia in 1998. The pledge, in a speech marking the birthday of the Prophet Muhammad, was taken by observers as an implicit plea for recognition of the "government" he set up after his supporters elected him "interim president of Somalia" in June.

Jordan hopes to normalise ties with Kuwait — Kabariti

Kingdom never condoned Iraqi invasion or occupation, minister tells Al Siyassah

KUWAIT CITY (Agencies) — Jordan said Wednesday it hopes to normalise ties with Kuwait after they were frozen five years ago for its refusal to join a U.S.-led coalition to end the Iraqi occupation of the emirate. "Kuwait is a sister country with which we wish to normalise our relations, and I would like to visit it," Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabariti told the Kuwaiti newspaper Al Siyassah.



Abdul Karim Kabariti

"Iraq must comply with all United Nations resolutions concerning its conflict with Kuwait and must settle the question of the missing and prisoners in Iraq," Mr. Kabariti said.

He said Jordan "would spare no effort to obtain" a settlement of the matter. Iraq's invasion of Kuwait "wasn't an error, but a sin which should never be repeated," he said.

"Jordan's moves to reconcile with Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and other Arab countries are aimed at restoring solidarity" among Arab countries, undermined by the August 1990 invasion of Kuwait. Jordan never supported Baghdad's occupation of Kuwait and backs efforts to trace Kuwaitis who went missing in the seven-month period, Al Siyassah and its sister paper, the Arab Times, quoted Mr. Kabariti as saying.

Kuwait and its Gulf allies were angered by the perceived pro-Iraqi sympathy of Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) during the Gulf crisis. Amman's ties with other Gulf Arab states are almost back to normal.

The Kuwaiti embassy in Amman has been run by a charge d'affaires since it pulled out its ambassador at the height of the crisis. The Jordanian embassy in Kuwait remains closed.

Asked what steps Jordan would take to restore ties with Kuwait, Mr. Kabariti said Amman rejected any kind of invasion and had never broken U.N. Gulf war resolutions despite Jordanian sympathy for ordinary Iraqis suffering under sanctions. "Jordan has never accepted, and will continue

(Continued on page 7)

Ekeus wants more Iraqi data

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — U.N. arms control envoy Rolf Ekeus said on Wednesday Iraq's latest declaration about its biological weapons programme included contradictions and shortcomings and more information was needed. He also voiced doubt whether an analysis of documents he received during a visit to Baghdad from Aug. 4 to 6 would be completed by the time the Security Council conducted its next periodic review of sanctions against Iraq, due around Sept. 9.

The list of shortcomings I gave to them (the Iraqis) makes that doubtful, but they promised they would work very hard," he told Reuters as he entered a meeting with council President Nugroho Wisnumurti of Indonesia. The sanctions, including a ban on oil sales, were imposed by the council shortly after Iraq's August 1990 invasion of Kuwait. A key condition for easing of the curbs is a clean bill of health from the U.N. Special Commission responsible for scrapping Iraq's

weapons of mass destruction, headed by Mr. Ekeus. Baghdad's biological programme is the last major unresolved weapons issue. Although Iraq considered the approximately 530 pages of documentation it recently handed over as a full and final accounting of its biological weapons programme, "we don't think we have enough. We have to verify a large amount of things," Mr. Ekeus said. "We have several shortcomings in their declaration which we have to sort out, contradictions and such. But we also have to verify a lot of statements... there are things we don't understand, our specialists don't understand." Pressed to say whether his assessment could be completed before the Security Council's sanctions review, he said: "It's two sides working on this, Iraq and the (U.N.) Commission. And as we cannot control the Iraq side, it is very difficult for us to make an absolute assessment."

Arafat, Peres press work on final autonomy deal

TABA, Egypt (Agencies) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres forged ahead Wednesday with a third day of marathon talks in a bid to wrap up an agreement to extend autonomy over the West Bank. After nearly three hours of negotiations, Mr. Peres left the hotel in the Egyptian Red Sea resort of Taba and went to occupied Jerusalem to see Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

"We are now flying to Jerusalem for urgent consultations with our government and our prime minister and we shall try to conclude whatever we can," he said. "We are going over the whole agenda. There were some problems in the agenda."

"There are six major issues. On three of them we are almost in agreement, for the others further consultations are needed."

"We are coming back to Tabat this evening to try to reach an overall agreement covering all aspects. There is

progress all the time," Mr. Peres said.

Mr. Arafat's spokesman Marwan Kanafani told reporters: "There are bases for an agreement."



Bosnian Muslim children show their joy flashing bananas in central Bihac on late Tuesday as the first International Red Cross convoy reached the western Bosnian city of Bihac, which was under Serbian siege until the recent Croatian capture of the breakaway Krajina region (AFP photo)

Fighting blocks Serb refugee evacuation; Russian plan foiled

Combined agency dispatches

ZAGREB — Fierce fighting between Croats and rebel Krajina Serbs on Wednesday blocked the retreat of desperate refugees trying to join thousands fleeing through the heat of northern Bosnia towards Serbia. Krajina Serbs held onto a bridgehead in Croatia in the border town of Dvor despite fierce Croat artillery fire and an air attack on Tuesday that U.N. sources said they believed were carried out by Croat planes. But combat died down around the middle of the day, raising U.N. hopes the flow of refugees could restart. The fighting had stalled a U.N. deal to evacuate thousands of armed Serb men and their families holding out against capture by Croat forces who have won back the rest of Krajina. Their route to safety would pass through Dvor. The refugees hoped to join a vast exodus of 150,000 people jamming the roads across northern Serb-held Bosnia en route to Serbia. Aid workers said conditions were worsening after days of travel in the summer heat. Croatian President Franjo Tudjman, triumphant at the near-total reunification of his country by force, rebuffed a Russian peace initiative by

turning down an invitation for talks in Moscow. Croatian President Mr. Tudjman's refusal threw cold water on Russian President Boris Yeltsin's ambitious hopes of launching a Yugoslav peace initiative. Mr. Yeltsin had asked Mr. Tudjman and Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic to a peace summit in Moscow this week, reportedly Thursday. But at the last minute, the Croatian leader announced he would only come if Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic also came. "Such a meeting should be carefully prepared and the Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic should take part," a statement from Mr. Tudjman's office said. Mr. Milosevic said he would turn up anyway, the official Serb news agency Tanjug reported. But the Serb's visit will be a far cry from Mr. Yeltsin's plan of a major summit aimed, as the foreign ministry put it, at "a global political settlement" in the former Yugoslavia. In Banja Luka, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bosnian-Serb leader Radovan Karadzic warned there would be no peace for hundreds of years in Bosnia until Serbs win back Krajina, after pledging his support for the self-styled Krajina president, Milan Martić.

Mr. Karadzic delivered his chilling threat when he appeared alongside Mr. Martić for an unscheduled joint press conference in the Bosnian city. "There will be no peace for hundreds of years until Serbs get back Krajina," the leader said. He said that Croatia will never be able to feel safe and secure as long as the Serbs are outside their territory. Both men wore battle fatigues and looked pale and drawn. Asked if he felt that President Milosevic had failed the Serb people, Mr. Karadzic said: "I don't know whether he failed or whether he didn't intend for it to happen. I do feel that Yugoslavia is obliged to defend the Serbs."

Croats take Serb bastion

ZAGREB (AFP) — Croatian forces Wednesday captured Dvor, the last major pocket of resistance by Serb secessionists in the Krajina region, a U.N. official said. Croatian forces raised their country's flag in the town of Dvor, located on the border with Bosnia 120 kilometres southeast of Zagreb, the official said. Fighting had continued throughout Wednesday morning around the town despite the signature late Tuesday of a ceasefire between the Croatian army and secessionist Serbs. In a related development, five elderly people were "executed" Tuesday in Dvor by soldiers whose uniforms have not been officially identified in an incident which compounds fears for the security of the thousands of refugees taken in recent fighting. U.N. officials said.


(Continued on page 7)

Hamas renews threats over Abu Marzouk

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — The Palestine group Hamas repeated on Wednesday warnings to the United States not to hand its arrested leader Musa Abu Marzouk over to Israel, a day after the first extradition hearings. "We warn the administration of President Clinton against extraditing Dr. Abu Marzouk. We consider such an act a red line that must not be crossed," the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) said in a statement distributed in Damascus. If Washington does send Mr. Abu Marzouk to Israel, "we will consider the U.S. as a participant in the conflict between our people and the Zionist occupation," the group said.

A pro forma hearing in New York on Tuesday set an Oct. 17 session to consider Israel's request for Mr. Abu Marzouk's extradition on the grounds that he is directly linked to Hamas's campaign of anti-Israeli attacks. Israel has 60 days to present its evidence against Dr. Abu Marzouk, who was arrested at Kennedy airport

On the Occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's accession to the Throne



ARAB BANK

has the honour to convey to HIS MAJESTY KING HUSSEIN and to the Jordanian People its felicitations and most cordial wishes

Troops will then redeploy further in three more stages.

(Continued on page 7)

PLO seeks to reverse Iraqi suspension of scholarships

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has appealed to the Iraqi government to reverse a decision that revoked the granting of Iraqi state scholarships to Palestinians from the autonomous Gaza Strip and Jericho as an expression of Baghdad's rejection of the Oslo accord signed by the PLO and Israel.

They said the PLO leadership had sent an urgent message to the Iraqi government requesting it to reconsider the decision, which was announced last week.

"The Iraqi decision contradicts the friendly relations between the people and leaderships of the two sides," said one source who declined to be named.

Omar Khanib, the acting chief of the Palestinian embassy here and representative to Jordan of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA), said the Palestinian ambassador in Baghdad was informed of the Iraqi decision last week.

"No specific reason was given, only that the Iraqi government was unable to extend any scholarships to Palestinian students in Iraqi institutions this year," Mr. Khanib told the Jordan Times.

He said the Palestinian

ambassador to Baghdad had contacted the Iraqi government under instructions from the PLO leadership and was "trying to reverse the decision."

According to reports, the Iraqi government would suspend scholarships only to students from the Gaza Strip and Jericho as an expression of Baghdad's rejection of the Oslo accord signed by the PLO and Israel.

Baghdad, the reports said, will continue to give up to 300 scholarships to students from other parts of the West Bank which have yet to go under Palestinian autonomy.

Mr. Khanib declined direct comment on whether there was any political reason behind the decision.

"We are trying to get a clear picture of the situation, and we are still awaiting a clear response from the Iraqi government to our request for a reversal of the decision," he said.

The diplomat noted that the Palestinian territories had limited facilities to offer higher education to students there and that scholarships offered by some of the Arab states were vital for the Palestinians.

The Iraqi government used to extend up to 500 scholarships, most of them

at university levels, to students from the Gaza Strip and West Bank.

Scholarships offered by the Iraqi government to sons and daughters of Palestinians living in Iraq are not included in the so-called quota.

No accurate estimate of Palestinians living in Iraq was immediately available.

Mr. Khanib said the Palestinian community in Iraq "was sizeable" and many Palestinians continue to live in Iraq despite the hardships brought in by the economic sanctions imposed after Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990.

The Iraqi suspension of scholarships for Gaza and Jericho students appeared to have surprised many analysts who had always argued that the public rejection of the Oslo accord was only one side of the Iraqi approach to the Middle East peace process. They note that the Iraqi position was mostly orchestrated through the state-run media, and that senior Iraqi officials have not totally ruled out endorsing the peace process.

Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz said earlier this year that Iraq had no axe to grind with Israel if the Jewish state's immediate neighbours were happy to make peace with it.



SHEIKH ZAYED LEAVES SYRIA: Syrian President Hafez Al Assad (left) bids farewell to United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahayan at Damascus airport

on Wednesday upon Sheikh Zayed's departure from the Syrian capital after a two-day visit (AFP photo)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Pakistan extradites five to Egypt — report

ISLAMABAD (AFP) — Pakistan has extradited to Cairo five Egyptians accused of involvement in terrorism and sabotage in their country, a Pakistani newspaper reported Wednesday. Among the group was Abu Yahya, identified as commander of a fundamentalist armed group in Egypt. The News said. The five were flown to Egypt from here by a special plane late Tuesday, escorted by some officials from the Pakistani Federal Investigation Agency (FIA), the paper said. No official confirmation of the report, which quoted FIA sources, was immediately available. Abu Yahya was arrested by the FIA a few days ago from a hotel in Islamabad, the report said without identifying the other suspects. Pakistan and Egypt recently finalised draft of an extradition treaty, but it is not known whether it has been ratified by the two governments. Many of the Egyptian volunteers who fought in the 1979-89 against the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan were suspected of involvement in the fundamentalist campaign in Egypt against President Hosni Mubarak's government.

Kuwaiti, Saudi experts to discuss water

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) — Kuwaiti and Saudi experts are to meet in September to discuss demarcating their countries' disputed maritime frontiers, a Kuwaiti minister said Tuesday. Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabab Al Ahmad Al Jaber, who went to Riyadh on July 18 to try to settle the dispute, centring on ownership of two Gulf islands, Qaruh and Um Al Maradin, did not specify exactly when they would meet. The two countries demarcated their land frontiers in 1965 after sharing a neutral zone created in 1922. King Fahd of Saudi Arabia told the Kuwaiti daily Al Siyassa on Monday that he hoped Gulf monarchies would settle their border differences at a summit of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) in Muscat in December. The GCC comprises Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

PLO police pick new HQ on West Bank

JENIN (AFP) — Palestinian police chiefs have chosen a new headquarters for the force in the north of the West Bank in preparation for an Israeli army withdrawal, a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official said. Twenty officials selected the site during a recent inspection tour, said Kadura Mussa, director of Palestinian National Institutions in the area. "The tour was to prepare the ground for the deployment of the Palestinian police on the West Bank. But he refused to say where the headquarters would be. Israeli troops are due to quit the towns of Jenin, Nablus, Kalkiya and Tulkarem once an agreement is sealed for the spread of autonomy over the West Bank. Other towns are due to follow later.

Iraq frees 20 Egyptian prisoners

CAIRO (AFP) — Iraq has freed 20 Egyptians imprisoned for illegal entry into the country, the head of Egypt's interests section in Baghdad said Wednesday. "The Iraqi authorities have pardoned 20 prisoners who recently crossed the Iraqi border by mistake," said Rada Nasser, quoted by the Egyptian government daily Al Gomhuria. The pardons were "in response to Egyptian moves," Nasser said, adding that another group of Egyptian prisoners held on criminal charges would be released in the next few days. Baghdad's gesture came as Egypt has stepped up calls for an end to the suffering caused to the Iraqi people by the U.N. sanctions imposed after Iraq's August 1990 invasion of Kuwait. Egypt, which joined a U.S.-led coalition to oust Iraqi troops from the emirate, broke off diplomatic ties with Iraq during the Gulf crisis but has an interests section in the Indian embassy in Baghdad.

Kurd party leaders freed; trial continues

ANKARA (Agencies) — A court has set free four leaders of a pro-Kurdish party who are on trial for allegedly belonging to an outlawed Kurdish rebel group.

The four are members of the People's Democracy Party (Hadeep), which succeeded the pro-Kurdish Democracy Party (DEP). They had been in jail for three and a half months.

Eight members of DEP, which was shut down in March, were sentenced to up to 15 years in a separate trial for assisting the outlawed Kurdistan Labour Party (PKK).

In Tuesday's session, the semi-military state security court also decided to permit spectators to attend the hearings. During the first session last month, 250 spectators were arrested when they protested the court's decision to hold the trial behind closed doors.

The defendants denied the charges and claimed they were tortured into confessing.

The PKK has been fighting for Kurdish autonomy in southeastern Turkey since 1984. The conflict has claimed more than 16,000 lives.

The trial was scheduled to resume Aug. 14.

There is no bail system under Turkish law and it is up to the courts to decide whether defendants are kept in jail or let free during their trial.

Hadeep official Ismail Arsalan said the defendants, whose trial started on July 6, were released Tuesday.

"We think this is a case based on a political decision to try and stop our party from functioning," he told Reuters.

The four have rejected the charges, saying the case is based on false and faulty information.

One of the defendants, Hadeep Assistant General Chairman Sehabettin Ozarslaner, has said he was

tortured by police.

The others on trial are to assistant general chairman Hikmet Fidan, Assistant General Secretary Seyhmuz Cagor and Ankara Party official Farhan Turk.

Hadeep is the successor to DEP which was closed by Turkey's constitutional court for separatism last year. Six DEP members of parliament were imprisoned for links with the PKK, largely on the basis of statements they made in support of broader Kurdish freedoms.

Hunger strikers held

Turkish police detained 34 Kurdish hunger strikers on Wednesday in a dawn raid on the Istanbul headquarters of the pro-Islamic Welfare Party (RP), Kurdish activists said.

The protesters, on temporary hunger strike, had taken over the building on Sunday to draw attention to a three-week-old hunger strike by thousands of Kurdish rebel prisoners.

Hayri Demirel, a member of a Kurdish prisoner solidarity committee, told Reuters that RP officials called for police help after the strikers had refused to leave the building.

The semi-official Anatolian news agency said police raided the building at 5 a.m. (0200 GMT).

Relatives and friends of PKK prisoners on hunger strike in Turkish jails have staged sympathy strikes and occupied buildings throughout the country.

More than 8,000 imprisoned members of the PKK began the strike on July 14 to press for talks to end the Turkish-Kurdish conflict. Two people have died in the protest.

Dozens of other Kurds, mainly women and children, are on a related strike at the offices of a left-wing party in Istanbul. Hunger strikes in Turkey rarely end in deaths.

Jordan Times
Tel: 667171

Egyptian supreme court to hear Abu Zeid case

CAIRO (AFP) — Egypt's supreme court is to begin hearing in October an appeal against a lower court verdict declaring a university professor a heretic and ordering him divorced from his wife, legal sources said on Wednesday.

Nasser Hamed Abu Zeid and his wife have asked that the June 14 appeals court ruling against him be annulled.

Mr. Abu Zeid also lodged two appeals to suspend execution of the divorce sentence, which will be considered on Thursday and on October 17. One of Mr. Abu Zeid's colleagues at Cairo University has made a similar appeal, to come to court on Sept. 14.

The appeals seek to prevent the Muslim fundamentalists who won the ruling against Mr. Abu Zeid from requesting police to separate the couple by force.

The appeals court ruled that Ibrahim Yunis must be divorced from Mr. Abu Zeid on the grounds that a Muslim woman cannot be married to a heretic.

In their appeals to the supreme court, the couple wrote that the unprecedented ruling of heresy "threatens their lives and gives a weapon to those who do not know (Abu Zeid) to assassinate him."

By Islamic law, heretics are punished by death if they do not repent.

Mr. Abu Zeid and his wife are currently on vacation outside of Egypt, friends said.

The government weekly Al Musawwar reported on Tuesday that Mr. Abu Zeid had accepted a grant from a Dutch university to do research in the Netherlands for three semesters.

The appeals court ruled Mr. Abu Zeid an apostate based on his scholarly writings calling for a new interpretation of the Quran and, erasing, among other tenets, Islamic inheritance laws.

'Egypt is suppressing NGOs'
CAIRO (AFP) — The Egyptian government is conducting a campaign to undermine non-government organisations (NGOs) as it tightens down on democracy, seven Egyptian rights groups charged Wednesday.

NGOs, especially rights groups, "are being subjected to an organised campaign by the state aimed at imposing more restrictions on them," the groups said in a joint statement received by AFP.

The government has shown a "tendency to retract the democratic margin it has given," the groups said.

They pointed to a new press law imposing prison sentences and harsh fines for defamation which they said "widens the realm of criminal acts to include freedom of opinion."

State-run media have launched a "campaign to discredit human rights organisations by harming their public image and by raising suspicions of their political impartiality and national loyalty," the groups said.

They also cited "a number of the measures aimed at restricting (NGO) activities."

Halaib tribespeople winners in Egypt-Sudan row

SHALATIN, Halaib (AFP) — The 18,000 bedouins of Halaib are enjoying their first taste of modern living as Egypt seeks to win them over and nudge out Sudanese influence in the disputed Red Sea border region.

The tribespeople have found themselves on the receiving end of new homes, power and water supplies and free food hand-outs in the Egyptian chann offensive.

A group of journalists taken on a rare visit to Halaib by the Egyptian Defence Ministry saw concrete houses which had sprung up in the desert alongside the walled tents and wood cabins where most of the inhabitants live off their flocks of sheep and camels.

Police chief Abdul Hamid Serageddin, also head of Halaib's regional council, boasted of Cairo's achievements as he sat in front of a giant portrait of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

"In three years we have built 810 homes in the three main districts of Halaib province: Shalatin Abu Ramad and Halaib," Mr. Serageddin said.

"Four desalination plants which produce 600 cubic metres of fresh water a day have been built as well as a network of reservoirs, while water tankers distribute drinking water everyday."

"We have also set up three power stations providing electricity round-the-clock, with a capacity of

two megawatts each," he added.

Egypt has also built a 300-kilometre asphalt-covered road between Halaib and the military base of Bemis in southern Egypt.

Local radio broadcasts 12 hours a day and inhabitants can tune into Egyptian television at certain times.

Meanwhile the authorities hand out free flour, oil, sugar and tea every month, an army officer said.

Through such moves, Cairo is hope to secure the loyalty of the two big tribes in Halaib, the Ababdas and the Bishariyas who are of the same ethnicity as the inhabitants of Port Sudan.

That ethnic link forms the basis of Sudan's claim to the 18,000-sq-km arc-kilometre Halaib triangle.

While Egypt insists the border between it and its southern neighbour Sudan passes along the 22nd Parallel, according to a 1899 accord between Cairo and London, Sudan argues that the frontier was amended in 1902 to north of the 22nd Parallel to take into account the Sudanese tribes.

The quarrel never solved, flares whenever relations between Cairo and Khartoum are strained.

In 1992 Egypt dislodged the Sudanese administration in Halaib and replaced it with its own regional council.

"In 1992 the Sudanese elements posted in Halaib created problems and President Mubarak ordered us to

guarantee security in this region," Mr. Serageddin said.

The two neighbours came to blows again over Halaib last month as relations deteriorated, following Mr. Mubarak's accusations that Sudan was behind a June 26 attempt to kill him in Addis Ababa.

Egyptian military positions are visible among the Red Sea coast road leading to Halaib town, where the journalists were not allowed to visit on the weekend visit and where 900 Sudanese police are posted, according to Cairo.

Inhabitants told AFP of Egypt's growing influence in the region at the expense of Sudan.

"Egyptian identity cards have replaced the Sudanese identity card," said Eicha Mohammad Osman, 20, a supervisor at a children's park at Abu Ramad.

"I studied in Port Sudan where I have relatives but I don't go there any more because I'm scared of being arrested if I cross the border," she added, her body covered by the Sudanese "tob" or long, coloured scarf.

Fadel Khaled, head-teacher of the Egyptian school in Abu Ramad, said: "The Sudanese school shut down in 1993 as soon as we opened our school."

But traces of Sudanese rule remain. Inhabitants are still not used to Egyptian money and continue to deal in the Sudanese pound.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 601111
Rescue 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 617101
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 834022
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 635600
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone Repairs 62101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 731111
Radio Jordan 771111
Water Authority 680100
Electric Power 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53300
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53300

HOSPITALS

AMMAN: Dr. Khalid M'addi 743500
Dr. Mukhlis Muzhrah 820425
Dr. Nasser Ibrahim 649028
Dr. Salman Daboubi 76751
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdous pharmacy 778336
Al Asma pharmacy 637055
Neirouhi pharmacy 636072
Al Salm pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 64945
Shamsi pharmacy 637660
Nakrouhi pharmacy 623672
Najib pharmacy 847632

IRBID: Dr. Mohammad Al Khalili 273099
Al Ouds pharmacy (—)

ZARQA: Dr. Yousef Harizallah 988075
Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

For the Traveller

Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn. 6442116
Akkleh Maternity, J. Amn. 6424112
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 6647114
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Muasher Hospital 657270
The Islamic, Abdali 6691277
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664166
Iulian, Al-Muasher 669103
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafi 7711126
Army, J. Amn. 8916115
Queen Alia Hospital 6224050
Amal Hospital 607155
The Arab Centre for Heart and Special Surgery 665199

For the Traveller

ZARQA: Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)983323
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732
Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)989090
IBRID: Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555
Jordan Television (02)272725
The Al Nafoes Hospital (02)247000
AQABA: Princess Faysa Hospital (03)341111

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL

AMMAN: Hussein Medical Centre 81381332

AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53300-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

04:25 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
05:30 Aden (RJ)
06:15 Sana'a (RJ)
06:50 Dhahran (add) (RJ)
07:45 New Delhi (RJ)
08:05 Dhahran, Riyadh (RJ)
10:35 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
11:00 Colombo (RJ)
17:45 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
17:50 London (RJ)
18:30 Cairo, Agata (RJ)
19:00 Bangkok, Calcutta (RJ)
19:10 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
19:15 Athens (RJ)
20:00 Abu Dhabi, Al Ain (RJ)
20:40 Rome (RJ)
06:15 Cairo, Agata (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

13:00 Doha (Q7)
13:40 Sharjah (AH)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:40 Beirut (RJ)
11:25 Abu Dhabi, Al Ain (RJ)
12:00 Toronto, Montreal (RJ)
12:10 Rome (RJ)
12:30 Amsterdam, Chicago (RJ)
12:40 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
13:10 Paris (RJ)
13:25 Athens (RJ)
17:15 London (RJ)
17:25 Paris (add) (RJ)
20:35 Larnaca (RJ)
21:20 Jeddah (RJ)
21:40 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
22:10 Madinat (RJ)
22:20 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
23:30 Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta (RJ)
23:30 Bahrain (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:45 Beirut (ME)
14:30 Damascus, Doha (Q7)
14:30 Abu Dhabi, Al Ain, Muscat (GP)
15:30 Riyadh (SV)

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

13:30 Iris-the Happy Professor
14:00 Fireman Sam
14:15 My Secret Identity
14:30 NBA
15:00 Pirates Island
15:30 Take Your Pick
16:00 I Witness Video
17:00 Children's Programme — Spirit
17:30 Varieties and Game Show — Le Modest Est A Vous
19:00 News in French
19:15 Magazine — Portrait D'Alain Cavalier
19:30 News Headlines
19:35 National Geographic
20:30 The Album Show
21:15 Murder She Wrote
22:00 News in English
22:25 Feature film: "Other Side of Love"
22:59 Shogun

PRAYER TIMES

04:25 Fajr
05:51 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
12:41 Dhuhr
16:21 'Asr
19:31 Maghrob
20:56 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church
Swedish, Tel. 810740

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terraviva Church Tel. 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543

American Catholic Church Tel. 771331

American Orthodox Church Tel. 775261

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751

Amman International Church Tel. 652526

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824328

German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932

Church of Nazareth Tel. 635691

The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

"Temperatures are expected to rise with weather conditions becoming relatively warm and winds light to moderate. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm."

Min./Max. temp. 21/34
Amman 27/40
Agaba

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple 700/500
Banana (Mukammah) 600
Cabbage 110/60
Carrot 200/140
Cauliflower 300/200
Cucumbers (large) 150/100
Cucumbers (small) 280/180
Eggplant 150/100
Fennel 600/500
Garlic 600/500
Lemon 450/300
Marrow (large) 600/500
Marrow (small) 150/100
Mushrooms 280/180
Onion 150/100
Onion (dry) 750/600
Orange 200/100
Peas 450/300
Pepper (hot) 200/100
Pepper (sweet) 150/100
Potato 380/280
String Beans 420/300
Tomato 260/180
Water Melon 120/60

Pyongyang spurns Seoul's overtures, cancels rice talks

SEOUL (R) — North Korea has shelved rice talks with the South, accusing a sailor on a South Korean rice ship of spying, Seoul's Vice-Union Minister Song Young-Dae said Wednesday.

North Korea watchers in Seoul said Pyongyang was spurning a bid by South Korea to achieve a breakthrough in relations by providing emergency rice aid to the Communist state.

Mr. Song told reporters the ship, which delivered 5,000 tonnes of rice, was being barred from returning home three days after it unloaded its cargo at the North Korean port of Chongjin.

"North Korea claims (sailor) Lee Yang-Chon's photographing at Chongjin Port has been found out, through his confession, to be a premeditated espionage activity and an act of provocation," Mr. Song said.

"The North also notified that under these circumstances, the third round of talks could not take place as planned."

The talks, the only existing official channel between the two rivals, were due to begin Thursday in Beijing.

South Korea had hoped the talks would lead to steps ending the long-standing con-

frontation with the North along the four kilometre wide demilitarisation zone dividing the Peninsula, regarded as the last cold war frontier.

"North Korea threw a cold blanket on Seoul's plan to forge new relations," said Kim Koo-Seup, chief researcher on North Korea at Seoul's Korea Institute for Defence Analysis.

"The North does not want any major changes towards the south as they suspect Seoul seeks to absorb the North by increasing contacts and exchanges," he said.

Mr. Song said Seoul officials were puzzled by the North's accusation as personnel belonging to the 9,400-tonne Samsun Venus crew, including cameras, should have been kept in a sealed box and they were told not to take pictures.

He demanded the return of the ship's 21 crew and said Seoul was proposing to the North a meeting of representatives to discuss the issue.

The South "is committed to the supply of rice to North Korea as already agreed but I make it clear delay in rice supply is unavoidable until this case is resolved," he said.

At the first round of talks in Beijing in June, Seoul agreed to supply 150,000 tonnes of free rice to the North to ease what Seoul says is a chronic food shortage and to improve ties. Half has been shipped to the North already.

Asked if the latest development would mean inter-Korean ties would turn for the worse, Mr. Song said: "It is a sudden, unexpected incident. It is not right to link this case to the broad picture of South-North relations."

But South Korea's Yonhap News Agency quoted a senior official as saying Seoul was considering scaling down a proposal aimed at improving ties with the North on Aug. 15, the 50th anniversary of Korea's independence from Japan.

"North Korea is laying cards on the table to use them for bargaining with the South. It does not want inter-Korean ties to develop as Seoul wants to see," said Yu Suk-Ryul, fellow at the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security.

In the planned Beijing talks, senior officials had been expected to discuss Seoul's additional rice aid to the North but the Seoul wanted also to discuss other issues.

North Korea has also ignored the South's call for the release of eight fishermen whose trawler was seized by a North Korean patrol boat off the west coast of the peninsula in May and denounced Seoul for arresting the widow of a South Korean dissident on an illegal trip to Pyongyang.

South Korea Wednesday expressed its regret over the crew member's use of a camera, which had led to the seizure of the South Korean rice ship, officials said.

A Unification Ministry spokesman said the message of regret been sent from South Korea's top delegate for rice relief to the North, Vice Finance and Economy Minister Lee Suk-Chae, to his counterpart Jon Nam-Chol.

The message called for a working-level contact Thursday in Beijing to settle the issue, and expressed regret over the setback in the implementation of the rice agreement caused by the incident.

"It is regrettable that one of our crew members took pictures by a personal mistake, but both sides will be able to bring it to an amicable settlement," the message said.

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Murayama rejects criticism of reshuffle

NAGASAKI, Japan (R) — Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama rejected criticism of his cabinet reshuffle Wednesday and tried to salvage the fortunes of his battered Socialist Party by proposing a merger with its small ally.

Mr. Murayama's talk of a party merger came a day after he reshuffled his cabinet, a move widely seen as falling well short of the aim of bolstering his three-way coalition which suffered a setback in upper house elections last month.

Mr. Murayama repeated Wednesday that the job of the new cabinet was to address economic issues, including a second supplementary budget to boost sluggish economic recovery.

Mr. Murayama replaced most of his cabinet members but kept his foreign, trade and finance ministers in an attempt to preserve the delicate balance among his Socialists, the powerful Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and Sakigake.

"We must step up cooperative ties with Sakigake with the aim of creating a new party," Mr. Murayama told a news conference in Nagasaki, where he attended a memorial service marking the 50th anniversary of the world's second atomic bombing.

"The LDP is getting a bad press from the reshuffle," said Kazuya Ishibashi, a Hashimoto supporter. "This is a critical issue and we must seek a complete change of leadership."

Mr. Murayama rejected criticism that the reshuffle was influenced by the LDP leadership question. "This had nothing to do with the new cabinet," he said Wednesday.

Mr. Murayama said the proposed member of the Socialists and Sakigake was designed to create a "third bloc" besides the two large conservative political parties, the LDP and the opposition Shinshinto (New Frontier Party).

After Murayama scrapped the Socialist Party's leftist tenets last year, the party was in danger of being swept away in the next general elections unless it changed its name and merged with "liberal" forces, political analysts said.

Mr. Murayama does not have to call elections until mid-1997 but he can do so anytime. But early polls were increasingly unlikely because of the ruling camp's poor showing in upper house elections last month.

In that election, the Socialists won only 16 of the 126 seats contested. Finance Minister Takemura's Sakigake won only three seats.

Foreign minister and incumbent LDP head Yohei Kono will face popular Trade Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto.

"The LDP is getting a bad press from the reshuffle," said Kazuya Ishibashi, a Hashimoto supporter. "This is a critical issue and we must seek a complete change of leadership."

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Town's ban on satellite dishes sparks anger

PARIS (R) — A ban on individual satellite dishes imposed on a fast-growing Paris suburb has angered the town's immigrant families and triggered a threat of a lawsuit from antenna installers. The National Association of Television Reception Professionals (ANPRET) said it would challenge the decision by Courcouronnes Mayor Guy Briantais to prohibit individuals from attaching dishes to their apartment blocks. Mr. Briantais, in an order issued last month, justified the ban on "aesthetic and safety" grounds, arguing the dishes were unsightly and could cause injury if they fell as a result of strong winds.

ANPRET called the order unjust and illegal. "French law guarantees freedom of reception. The mayor cannot oppose the installation of an individual antenna," association President Cedric Davy said in the statement. The order was particularly irritating to families of Turkish and North African origin who depend on the dishes to view entertainment and news programmes in their native languages. The town of 13,000 people is served by a cable television system, but the cable carries no North African or Turkish channels though many families rely on such broadcasts to keep in touch with their cultural roots.

Mr. Briantais said the dishes were unsightly and could cause injury if they fell as a result of strong winds. ANPRET called the order unjust and illegal. "French law guarantees freedom of reception. The mayor cannot oppose the installation of an individual antenna," association President Cedric Davy said in the statement. The order was particularly irritating to families of Turkish and North African origin who depend on the dishes to view entertainment and news programmes in their native languages. The town of 13,000 people is served by a cable television system, but the cable carries no North African or Turkish channels though many families rely on such broadcasts to keep in touch with their cultural roots.

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EASTERN SLAVONIA ON ALERT Serbian volunteer soldiers of Serb commander Arkan's special forces called "The Tigers," observe the enemy lines from trenches in Eastern Slavonia. Serbs in eastern Slavonia, the Serb-occupied area since the beginning of the war in the former Yugoslavia, are preparing for a possible Croat attack to take back this region (AFP photo)

Russians, Chechens deadlocked over PoW release

GROZNY, Russia (Agencies) — Russian and Chechen peace negotiators failed Wednesday to resolve a dispute blocking a prisoner exchange, further delaying implementation of a fragile military accord.

Chechen military commander Aslan Maskhadov told reporters "now the problem is that the Russians are demanding the release of 54 prisoners but we have only seven."

"We proposed exchanging all those held by each side, and searching for the others later, releasing them as we find them — Russians and Chechens. The Russian side has not yet agreed with that," Akhmad Idigov, a senior member of the Chechen separatist delegation, said. The Russians had been handed a list of some 1,300 missing Chechens.

Under the military accord signed on July 30, a complete exchange of prisoners was due to have taken place by Monday.

"Mr. Idigov said the Russian delegation needed to consult with Moscow and we will wait the answer," Interfax News Agency quoted the spokesman for Russian forces in Chechnya, Alexander Georgiyev, as saying that the prisoners row meant the whole peace process "is under threat of stalling."

However, the military talks were set to continue Thursday. Talks at expert level on the political aspects of the Chechnya conflict, which were suspended for two days, were also due to resume Thursday.

Mr. Idigov said the Chechen separatist delegation had complained to the Russians for having increased the amount of military equipment they had deployed in the breakaway republic.

"The Russians have increased their military equipment and posts here," despite the military accord, he told AFP.

Mr. Idigov said the Chechen delegates came under fire from a Russian military post late Tuesday as they were travelling in convoy between the villages of Gekhi and Valerik southwest of the devastated Chechen capital Grozny. Nobody was injured.

"We had to stop and sort it out. They had aimed at our vehicles," he said.

The military accord calls for the separatist fighters to be disarmed and for self-defence units of up to 25 men carrying small arms to be set up in each village. At the same time, most Russian troops are to withdraw.

The accord stipulates that Russia will keep one brigade of Interior Ministry troops and one motorised brigade of federal army troops in Chechnya.

General Anatoly Romanov, commander of Russian forces in Chechnya, said Wednesday the Russian side was "concerned about the provocative activities (of separatist fighters) in many regions."

"The military accord is being interpreted incorrectly. Many armed Chechen fighters are entering regions, occupying buildings. Representatives of the delegations will now be sent to sort out the situation on the spot," he said.

Mr. Maskhadov said he held discussions Tuesday with Chechen fighters in Shali and the Nadterechny district "so that there are no more provocative actions by our side."

"I think this will lead to the desired results," he added.

The Nadterechny district, northwest of Grozny, is a stronghold of the Chechen opposition to separatist leader Dzhokhar Dudayev.

ITAR-TASS news agency reported that two Russian soldiers were killed and several injured when they stepped on a mine after coming under heavy fire overnight in Grozny.

Between 15,000 and 30,000 people have died, according to "various estimates, since Russian troops stormed into Chechnya on Dec. 11 to crush a three-year secessionist movement led by Mr. Dudayev.

A fragile ceasefire has been in effect since June 20. Meanwhile, after several weeks of helping police to patrol Moscow streets, 3,000 paratroopers are leaving the city, officials said Tuesday.

City authorities called for reinforcements in June after Chechen rebels seized several hundred hostages in southern Russia and threatened more acts of terrorism to demand an end to the war in Chechnya.

Paratroopers, some of them fresh from combat in Chechnya, were deployed at roads, power plants, rail stations and bridges in Moscow. Their armoured vehicles were parked near police road posts where major highways entered the city.

Last week's signing of a partial agreement between federal government and Chechen rebels reduced the danger of terrorist attacks in Moscow.

City government Saturday decided that no further help from the army was needed, said Sergei Bogdanov, a spokesman for the Moscow branch of the Federal Security Service.

"We only accompanied policemen, and were used for our physical force," said a duty officer at the paratroopers' headquarters in Moscow. Most of the paratroopers left Moscow during the weekend, he said.

Police officials, however, said the paratroopers were useful.

"Nothing bad has happened in Moscow while they were here," said Moscow police spokeswoman Lydia Lagutkina.

The very presence of paratroopers, wearing their distinctive blue berets, gave people a sense of security, she added.

Over 100 hurt as anti-Rao protest turns violent

NEW DELHI (AFP) — More than 100 people were injured here Wednesday when tens of thousands of members of a breakaway faction of India's ruling Congress (I) Party clashed with police during an attempt to riot police used tear gas, water cannons and steel-piged canes to repulse demonstrators who smashed through steel barricades and tried to rush parliament to demand the resignation of Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, witnesses said.

The estimated 30,000 protesters were dispersed by about 4,000 members of the Rapid Action Force, a paramilitary police force, after a street battle during which the police were pelted with stones, bottles and flower pots.

Police said more than 100 demonstrators and policemen suffered injuries in the hour-long free-for-all about one kilometre from the downtown parliament building. Several journalists and passers-by were also hurt.

Many of the injured suffered broken arms and legs, witnesses said. A number of people were seen bleeding from the head after being clubbed by the police or hit by stones and other objects.

Hundreds of shoes and sandals lay strewn on the ground following the clash along with piles of blood-stained clothes and overturned steel barricades.

Arjun Singh and Narain Dutt Tiwari, two of the organisers of the protest, were both blasted from close range by water cannons and briefly detained by police, witnesses said.

Mr. Singh, who quit the government in December and was expelled from the Rao-led Congress two months later, accused the police of heavy-handed handling of the protest, saying the police action was "unprovoked and an act of cowardice."

Mr. Tiwari announced plans to stage a 24-hour "silent protest" and tied a blue towel over his mouth, a form of protest frequently used by Indian independence hero Mahatma Gandhi.

In parliament, a member of Mr. Singh and Mr. Tiwari's breakaway faction of the Congress Party denounced the police and demanded an inquiry into what he described as a police assault on "peaceful party workers."

Shiv Charan Mathur, a member of the so-called "rebel Congress, said the police clubbing of the demonstrators had been "merciless."

Before reaching parliament, the demonstrators held a rally in a park to denounce the Rao government and demand the prime minister's resignation.

"Rao's leadership is non-charismatic and non-articulate," said Mr. Tiwari to chants of "down with Rao." "He should resign immediately."

Mr. Tiwari, a veteran politician from Uttar Pradesh, India's most populous state, slammed the economic reforms begun by Mr. Rao after taking power in June 1991.

"The globalisation policies of the government are not taking us in the right direction," said Mr. Tiwari, who was elected president of the breakaway Congress at a rally held here in May.

Speaking on the 53rd anniversary of the "Quit India" movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi to bring about an end to British rule, Mr. Tiwari accused Mr. Rao of selling India out to multinational in the name of economic liberalisation.

"The law and order situation in the country is worsening and there is blatant corruption," Mr. Tiwari added. "Spiralling inflation has spelled doom for the 550 million people below the poverty line."

Arjun Singh said Mr. Rao was incapable of leading the Congress, India's oldest political party, to victory in a general election that has to be held before May of next year.

"Narasimha Rao has totally betrayed the ethos of this great organisation (the Congress) and brought the country to a very sorry pass," he said.

Mr. Tiwari, the breakaway Congress leader, told the crowd: "We are here to renew the pledges taken during the independence movement and work for the nation and the re-birth of the Congress."

Singapore marks 30th year of independence

SINGAPORE (AFP) — Singapore Wednesday celebrated 30 years of independence with a chest-thumping display of patriotic fervour and economic triumph, tinged with nagging doubts about its long-term future.

The multicultural city-state of three million people was awash in red and white flags as thousands thronged the central Padang parade grounds to attend an evening extravaganza highlighting the republic's rise to developed status.

Air force helicopters and fighter jets, parachute teams and mobile armoured columns were part of the programme, which included performances by schoolchildren and community representatives.

A spectacular fireworks display was to top off the festivities watched by President Ong Teng Cheong, Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, his cabinet colleagues and members of parliament.

The capacity 16,000-strong crowd reserved the biggest applause for the arrival of Senior Minister and elder statesman Lee Kuan Yew, 71.

The small island was a sleepy trading port populated mostly by Chinese, Malay and Indian migrants and their descendants when it split from Malaysia in 1965.

Thirty years later, it is a thriving regional financial and industrial hub ranked among the 10 richest nations in terms of its citizens' purchasing power, awaiting graduation to the ranks of developed nations next year.

Prime Minister Goh outlined Singapore's economic achievements and the challenges facing it in a traditional address on the eve of national day.

The 54-year-old premier said Singapore was "not yet truly developed" and urged citizens to work harder and not slacken, warning that "the going will get tougher."

"We are still behind the developed countries in education, technology and cultural attainments," he said.

But in 30 years since independence, one generation of Singaporeans had completely transformed Singapore, and "now we have the resources, the talent and the ability" to make Singapore a more attractive society, he said.

Nagasaki mourns A-bomb dead

NAGASAKI, Japan (R) — The mayor of Nagasaki said Wednesday an appeal by his atomic-bombed city to abolish nuclear weapons will be ignored if Japan continued to refuse offering a straightforward apology for World War II.

"We must reflect on the history of (Japan's) invasion and aggression of the Asia-Pacific region," Mayor Techo Ito said in an address at a ceremony marking the 50th anniversary of world's second atomic bombing.

"Without reflection and apology on Japan's own past, our calls for the abolition of nuclear weapons will not be heard by the people of the world," Mr. Ito said.

Mr. Ito's remarks came three days after a similar remark by his counterpart in Hiroshima about Japan's stubborn refusal to offer apologies. About 140,000 people were killed in Hiroshima and 74,000 in Nagasaki.

Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama was set to make a statement expressing remorse for Japan's role in the war on Aug. 15, the 50th anniversary of Japan's surrender, but it was not clear if he would offer a clear apology.

As Nagasaki mourned the victims of the 1945 attack, Japanese leaders criticised China and France for their nuclear weapons plans and demonstrators stuffed with police outside the French embassy in Tokyo.

At 11:02 a.m. (0202 GMT), the time a U.S. B-29 bomber dropped the "fat man" bomb on Aug. 9, 1945, a record 30,000 people began a one-minute prayer in Nagasaki's peace park.

Church and Buddhist temple bells rang and emergency sirens blared.

The scene was dominated by a peace statue, a huge image of a half-naked man with his right arm pointing skyward and his left stretching forward in a gesture of peace.

Survivors of the bombing and bereaved families of victims offered water at an altar, symbolising their wish to quench the thirst of those who died crying for water.

"Has the message of Nagasaki reached the ears of the world?" Mr. Ito asked at the ceremony.

"There is still a high wall standing between the aspirations of the citizens of Nagasaki and the insistence of the nuclear states on the concept of nuclear deterrence or security through the possession of nuclear weapons," he said.

China's nuclear tests in May, and France's decision to resume tests in September in the South Pacific, have drawn condemnation in Japan and throughout the Pacific.

In Tokyo, about 50 demonstrators, some wearing masks of President Jacques Chirac, surrounded the French embassy as they protested against his decision to resume testing.

Mr. Murayama, who flew to Nagasaki for the ceremony, underlined his country's opposition to the tests, which was stated last Friday in a parliamentary resolution.

"As the prime minister of the country that has experienced the devastation of atomic bombing, I would like to express my intense anguish regarding nuclear weapons testing," he said in a speech.

Foreign Minister Yohei Kono said France's decision to resume tests might harm overall ties between the countries.

The bomb killed about 74,000 of Nagasaki's 240,000 people instantly or soon after with heat and radiation.

People are still dying from its after-effects, and a list of 3,073 more who died this year from bomb-related illnesses was presented at the memorial, bringing the total to 105,138.

The attack came three days after the world's first atomic bomb flattened Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945 and on the day of Soviet Union entered the war against Japan. On Aug. 15, Emperor Hirohito ordered Japan's unconditional surrender.

Meanwhile former Japanese Justice Minister Seizuke Okuno said he had no regrets over Japan's role in World War II, claiming that people have a "great misunderstanding (of the role) due to brainwashing by the United States."

"I regret some Japanese are showing sympathy for what China and South Korea say (about sufferings inflicted by the Japanese Imperial Army during the war)," Mr. Okuno said in an interview with Jiji Press published Wednesday.

"Japan fought a war of defence where Japan was forced by the U.S.-British alliance to declare war," Mr. Okuno, an 82-year-old World War II veteran, told the news agency.

"Japan intended to liberalise 'Great East Asia' colonised by white(s), and to bring stable life," he said. Mr. Okuno served as justice minister in 1980.

The phrase "common prosperity for Great Asia" was used by the Japanese military for the justification of its advances into its Asian neighbours.

Mr. Okuno, a leader of the right-wing group in the biggest ruling coalition force Liberal Democratic Party, was opposed to the resolution that admits Japan's wartime wrongdoings.

With strong opposition from some rightwingers, the coalition government has worked feverishly to make the resolution suggest Japan was not the only aggressor in the war.

Mr. Okuno noted: "Japan should not feel servile" and but "should review the facts of the war by the Japanese hands."

"If you intend to see things as red, they are red. If you intend to see them black, they are black," he said.

Japanese-Americans recall internment 50 years later

LOS ANGELES (AFP) — The mass internment authorised by President Franklin Roosevelt on Feb. 19, 1942 to round up any possible Japanese-American spies or saboteurs in the event of a Japanese attack on the West Coast.

As a boy of seven, he was among some 120,000 Japanese-Americans who were forced into internment camps after Japan's attack on Pearl Harbour, even though two-thirds were native-born Americans and none was accused of any crime.

"I couldn't help but be bitter," he recalled. "We were talking about fighting for freedom and I kept thinking, 'what about ours?' Citizenship applied to others but not for us, except at a discount rate."

All Americans of Japanese ancestry were removed from the West Coast and parts of Hawaii and forced to live in 11 major concentration camps in desolate areas of eight states west of the Mississippi River.

The majority lost or were forced to sell their homes and businesses in fire sales. Their new homes were hastily constructed wood and tar paper barracks surrounded by guard towers and barbed wire.

The mass internment never recovered economically or emotionally from the internment.

He was seven in 1942 when his family stepped out of a bus into the dusty Manzanar camp in California near Lone Pine.

It was blazing hot in the day and freezing at night. Rolling desert storms would obliterate everything, forcing everyone to bunker down until they passed, he said. They were there for three years.

"As a child, the enormity of what was going on was not apparent," he recalled. "My mother would cry and cry and I wondered what I could have done to warrant that."

Twenty years of savings had been seized by the government as enemy assets and even after they were released his father was so affected by the experience that he never worked again, he said.

The experience robbed many of the elders of their will when the camps were disbanded. Many had psychological problems, most took menial jobs, all still felt the sting of racism and many the shame of presumed complicity.

David Masouka, 73, was 19 when he was sent to Gila River camp in Arizona. His father died in the camp, his family was split up and the community disillusioned and ashamed that they were being treated in this fashion.

"My generation was so ashamed of this event that we didn't even talk about it — not even to our own children until they began to read about and asked us about it," he said.

"I've gotten over it," said Masouka, who said the experience shattered his family. "But at the time we were very angry. We considered ourselves good Americans and couldn't understand why we should be segregated," he said.

Ironically, while the elders seemed to have let go of the anger they felt, it is their children who never saw the camps who seem to feel the most ire, said Chris Komai, the spokesman for the Japanese American National Museum here, whose parents were interned at Amabele in Colorado.

"The real shame," she said, "is that the apology and redress happened after many of those who were there had passed away."

World War II soldiers' graves found in Ukraine

KIEV (AP) — Standing atop a large dug-out pit in a dense wood east of Kiev, a digger delicately pulls out a human skull with his World War II helmet still attached.

"There are probably around half a million soldiers buried in the forests around Kiev," says Vladyslav Voloshin as he starts searching for yet more bones in an unmarked grave near the town of Baryshevka.

"It's the largest hidden burial ground in Ukraine," he said.

Voloshin heads the Ukrainian non-profit organisation Shana, a volunteer group dedicated to finding unmarked soldiers' graves and re-burying their remains in proper graveyards.

So far this year, Shana members already have found the bones of 100 soldiers in the region of Kiev.

Human bones are regularly discovered when people are digging up summer garden plots or, as in the case of Baryshevka, just metres away from a children's summer camp.

"If we are men and not animals, then we should find these dead soldiers and give them a proper burial," said Voloshin, whose organisation's name means "respect" in English.

Most of the bones, he explained in an interview this week, belong to Soviet conscripts killed in battle by the advancing German army in 1941.

Local villagers were forced to bury the dead soldiers in shallow graves, and today these elderly Ukrainians often help locate the long-forgotten sites.

Unfortunately, Shana members are not the only ones hunting down the hidden graveyards.

They regularly compete with pillagers searching for valuable World War I memorabilia such as buttons, pins, ammunition, and even gold teeth from the skulls.

"These pillagers break open skulls and other bones just in order to find a bit of gold or weapons. Working after them is almost impossible," said Yuri Hlukhovsky.

Around 80 per cent of the graves excavated by Shana, he said, already had been dug up by local criminals.

Ukrainian experts say there still are tens of thousands, if not more, unmarked graves throughout the country, with an unknown number of soldiers buried in each.

According to prominent Russian military historian, Dmitry Volkogonov, the former Soviet Union lost nearly 26.5 million people, soldiers and civilians, in the war against Nazi Germany.

Many soldiers' graves remain unmarked not only in Ukraine, but in Russia, Belarus and other former Soviet republics.

However, the costly process of finding and re-burying these remains is far from being the first priority of many of these cash-strapped nations. Ukraine is not an exception.

"Our budget is so small that if we had to budget into it the money for these burials, we would have to fully stop financing everything else," said Cultural Ministry spokesman Volodymyr Hrabar.

China frees anti-Japan activist with warning

BEIJING (R) — Chinese police Wednesday freed a leading campaigner seeking compensation for Chinese victims of Japan's wartime aggression after detaining him for one day.

Tong Zeng said police had released him after warning him not to rally war victims to protest outside the Japanese embassy in Beijing because such actions could harm social order.

"They hope I won't cause disturbances. They're concerned about social order," said Mr. Tong, who was taken away by police from his Beijing home Tuesday.

"They told me not to be emotional. They know I have a force — war victims," he said in a telephone interview.

Mr. Tong has said he has collected the signatures of 800,000 people demanding Japan apologise for its actions during its 1937-45 invasion of China and compensate victims.

Mr. Tong said the police were worried that if he organised a protest outside the Japanese embassy it would turn violent.

China appears anxious to avoid offending Japan during its 50th anniversary of the Japanese surrender on Aug. 15.

Beijing has organised few official activities and has given the ceremonies a low profile in the official media apart from a series of historical essays attacking "militaristic fascism" carried in the official People's Daily.

While in detention, police asked Mr. Tong why he organised a news conference by war victims Monday and told him to apply for permission for such activities in future, he said.

Police stormed in to break up the news conference as an elderly "comfort woman" sobbed as she related her ordeal as a sex slave for Japanese soldiers in World War II.

Mr. Tong called the news conference after the group of Chinese war victims were forced to cancel a trip to Tokyo this week after failing to obtain visas.

On Monday, their lawyers filed the first lawsuit in Japan by Chinese war victims demanding compensation for injuries suffered at the hands of Japanese soldiers during the invasion.

The 10 victims bought 20 million yen (\$220,000) each. China dropped all official demands for compensation when it established diplomatic relations with Japan in 1972.

The Chinese government said recently it would not stand in the way of private citizens seeking redress for war injuries, but it appears to be reluctant to antagonise Japan, its "largest trading partner and a major creditor, and has obstructed the activities of campaign activists."

Chinese authorities confiscated Mr. Tong's passport last month and have barred him from taking part in the non-governmental organisation (NGO) forum on women, to be held in Beijing from Aug 30 to Sept. 6.

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GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

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University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

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Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

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Weak joints, brittle chain

IT IS much too early to celebrate the latest "breakthrough" that was struck between Israel and the Palestinian side over a "definite" timetable for Israeli withdrawal from parts of the occupied West Bank. To begin with we have become accustomed to hearing about agreements on deadlines and timetables that never saw the light of day. What may distinguish this latest accord on a timetable for Israeli withdrawal from major Palestinian cities and towns from earlier ones is something that only time will determine.

From the look of things, though, some doubt has to be shed on this most recent "agreement." First, because it calls for withdrawal of Israeli troops from "at least" four West Bank cities or towns prior to holding the Palestinian elections. One clear shortcoming in this formulation is the fact that any such pullout will take place only after the Palestinian national elections without pinpointing when these elections will ever take place. On the face of it, the entire timetable agreed upon revolves around an event that has yet to be fixed and agreed upon. Second, because the withdrawal timetable speaks about withdrawing from "at least" four West Bank municipalities with pullout from the rest of these areas to be concluded by February or July of 1997, again depending on the date of the elections. Obviously the parties cannot have an iron-clad agreement on all major specifics, something which renders the entire exercise dubious anyway.

What is worrying even more is the "Jewish settlers" issue which appears to complicate the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian talks to the extent that may take them beyond salvation. The settlers were allowed in or encouraged to go to the Arab territories by the various Israeli governments, including Labour, with full knowledge that they will be a complicating factor to peace efforts in the future. There are about 140,000 of them living all over the West Bank, and their problem has mushroomed of late into a major Israeli domestic crisis. But for Rabin to make even modest concessions to the settlers is a prescription for a new deadlock on the Palestinian track.

Israel in effect has allowed itself to be caught in a web of past entanglements and policies from which it may not be able to extricate itself without defeating the ultimate objectives of the Oslo peace accord. This reading of the Palestinian file is indeed troubling to all since the whole peace effort remains as brittle now as it indeed was before.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

MAHMOUD RIMAWI in Al Ra'i said Wednesday that one cannot but express sympathy for the displaced Serb families who, like their fellow countrymen, the Bosnians, fell victims to the ethnic cleansing conflicts. It is painful to watch thousands of families uprooted from their homes and on the move towards what they believe safer areas for their existence; and it is sad to see that the civilians continue to be the main victims in factional and religious conflicts in the former Yugoslavia, said the writer. What is more painful, he added, is to learn about further massing of forces for yet another round and rounds of fighting that would cause the displacement of more people and suffering to innocent women and children. The worst kind of wars, he said, are those which aim at causing the most harm and damage to the foe and uproot whole population from their own homeland.

ADDRESSING the Palestinian-Israeli talks on prospects of expanding the self-rule areas in Palestine in implementation of the Oslo agreement, a writer in Al Dustour said that the Israeli government has proved insincere in pursuing a path that would give the Palestine National Authority (PNA) wider powers. Mohammad Kawash said that the Israelis have been procrastinating, and allowing the extremists within the Israeli society and the settlers to stop the execution of the Oslo deal. The present escalation of protests by the settlers to abort the government's programme with the PNA is not supported only by the opposition Likud Party, but is also condoned by the ruling Labour Party as well, because the government has doubts about its own power to ensure the success of the second phase of the deal, said the writer. Withdrawal from Arab lands might bring to the surface the many contradictions among the various elements within the Israeli social structure and could cost the Labour Party the coming elections, he added.

The View from Academia

Music we'd rather do without

THERE IS good news now for people who have a snoring problem. If they have the courage to admit the problem and the willingness to do something about it, snorers have the chance to either reduce snoring dramatically or get rid of it entirely. This they can do on their own or through medical help.

Snoring has been receiving a great deal of attention in the U.S. recently. First of all, several studies have been conducted to determine the extent of the problem. The findings reveal that a substantial segment of the population in the U.S. suffers from this problem. The American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, for example, estimates that "45 per cent of normal adults snore at least occasionally" and that "one in four are habitual snorers." A study conducted in Maryland by the Centre for Snoring and Sleep Disorders asserts that the problem, which has been underdiagnosed for some time, is indeed widespread. According to the study, 25 per cent of the adult population in the U.S. are "severe snorers." This means that 10-20 million Americans suffer from heavy snoring.

Secondly, efforts have been exerted to encourage snorers or their family members to recognise snoring as a problem and to do something about it. The emphasis in this respect has been that even though the immediate victim is the snorer himself, the real victims are the family members. The latter point has been crucial to highlight for although snorers may not care much about what happens to them when they snore (i.e. to be awakened by family members in the middle of the night, joked about during the day time or even laughed at), they will most probably begin to care when they realise that they are disturbing and barking others (i.e. the "loved ones"). The ball then, according to studies in specialised journals, to the opinions of experts, to reports and anecdotes in the media and the press and to leaflets and pamphlets distributed by the various support groups, is in the family members' court. They are the ones to encourage and pressure and snorer (gently, diplomatically but also firmly, if need be). One person said in a TV programme the other day that the main reason he decided

to seek medical help for snoring was his son who came to visit him one night and could not sleep even though he was sleeping in a separate room.

Thirdly, snoring is better understood now and is more effectively dealt with than at any time before. There is a great deal of literature on the subject, there are many support groups to help individuals psychologically and physically, there are consulting agencies and there are specialised medical centres. In fact, many ear, nose and throat specialists in the U.S. are opening extensions in their clinics for snoring and sleeping disorders.

Generally, snoring is caused by an obstruction to the flow of air through the passages at the back of the mouth and nose. As the air flows, it causes the uvula and soft palate to vibrate, producing the noise which many of us do not particularly like to hear. In many cases, the problem is associated with excess tissue at the back of the throat.

According to the huge amount of literature on the subject as well as the opinion of experts, there are essentially two ways of reducing the problem or getting rid of it entirely:

— What snorers themselves can do. Before snorers think about seeking medical advice, they ought to begin by trying to solve the problem on their own. To this end, they can do the following either separately or together. The first thing is to change their sleeping position. Some people snore because they do not place their body in the right position. The second thing is to avoid heavy meals before bedtime; heavy meals at night not only cause nightmares and unnecessary weight gains but also sleep disorders. The third thing, according to some studies, is to avoid drinking alcohol at least four hours before going to bed. The fourth thing, in the opinion of some specialists, is to avoid medications which relax muscles. The fifth thing, as most of us know, is to reduce weight (which seems to be the root of all evil).

— Medical help. If what has just been listed above does not work, there will be no choice for the snorer but to seek medical help. At this level, there is the good news. Recently, an easy, comfortable and convenient laser

procedure has been developed to take care of the problem almost entirely — I say this, of course, after I have read much literature and after I have heard several specialists speak about the problem in several TV programmes; but I do not speak from personal experience, for I do not have the problem yet.

Here is how the procedure roughly works. Since the problem is caused by the vibration of the uvula and the soft palate as the air attempts to pass through and at times by excess tissue at the back of the mouth, with the help of the specialised surgeon (i.e. the otolaryngologist), laser (not just anybody) trims and reshapes the uvula and soft palate (or the excess tissue). The point to emphasise is that this is not major surgery. Several people (those who have tried it and those who are conducting it) say it is much like going to the dentist. The operation is done in the doctor's office (not in the hospital) in three to four sessions, 10-20 minutes each. Before and after each session, a person leads his/her normal life.

The first obstacle in our society would be to convince snorers that they actually snore. However, with the help of a few witnesses, a tape recorder or a video camera, the problem may be overcome. The second, more serious, obstacle would be to convince a father or mother (or grandfather or grandmother) to do something about the problem. As the issue has not been raised much in public, and as snoring in our society remains pretty much in the realm of the private, most people are too shy to either admit or do something. But with the younger family members' diplomatic skills, personal charm and determination, the snoring elders may be encouraged to act. Obviously, the issue needs to be addressed publicly, much more so than we have been doing (if we have in fact been doing anything).

Obviously also, medical help ought to be made available. I have not heard of the existence in our society of snoring and sleep disorder centres. If they do exist, it is great. All we have to do is to inform people more aggressively about them. If they do exist, then they ought to, for snoring is music we'd rather do without.

M. KAHIL



Arms for Yugoslavia: shopping lists and standby deals

By Charles J. Hanley
The Associated Press

AT HIS chalet high above Lake Geneva, a blue-chip weapons dealer is enjoying the Alpine air this summer and standing by for the go-ahead to pour 10,000 newly minted Kalashnikovs into the Yugoslav fray.

Over in the more workaday world of rush-hour London, another broker is trying to make his own big break, one ear on the car phone, the other on the news from Washington.

"It's like to get in there and do a little business myself," he assures a reporter.

As much as anyone, the world's arms merchants are closely watching the U.S. debate over lifting the weapons embargo on Bosnia. Contracts are in the offing.

But the embargo's future may hinge less on what eventually is decided in Washington than on what happened two weeks ago in Switzerland, where representatives of 52 Islamic countries simply declared the U.N. boycott invalid. Iran and others are already openly planning arms supplies for Bosnia's Muslim-led government, leaving the 1991 embargo resolution in shreds.

"It doesn't help," acknowledged Emilio J. Cardenas, Argentina's U.N. ambassador and head of the U.N. sanctions committee.

"If suddenly individual actions explode all over the place, it will simply add more fuel to the conflict." "Individual actions" have been going on for some time, as free-lance or government-sponsored smugglers have evaded the embargo — or tried to. Recent examples:

— Czech authorities intercepted a shipment of Semtex, a plastic explosive,

certified for shipment to Africa but found to be headed instead to one of the embargoed governments of former Yugoslavia, a knowledgeable source in Prague told the Associated Press.

Iran has smuggled Chinese-made Red Arrow anti-tank missiles to the Bosnian government forces, a U.S. intelligence source reported.

— The Croatian military somehow obtained Russian-made Mi-14 twin-turbine amphibious helicopters in violation of the embargo, Mr. Cardenas said in a New York interview.

He said the U.N. committee is investigating more than a dozen cases of alleged arms embargo-busting involving Bosnia, where an alliance of the Bosnian government and Croats is fighting rebel Bosnian Serbs.

In a new report on the war, a well-placed U.S. army intelligence analyst says the arms smuggling routes to Bosnian government forces, via Croatia, are becoming well-established.

Much war material is off-loaded at the Croatian ports of Split and Ploce, often from small boats that evade NATO's Adriatic Sea blockade, and set over new road links to the Bosnian-held city of Mostar, writes Lieutenant Colonel John E. Sray, who was intelligence chief for U.N. peacekeepers in Bosnia until late 1994.

Other weapons are flown into Croatia's capital, Zagreb, where more difficult overland delivery to the Bosnian Muslim heartland, he reports.

Bosnia's ambassador to Washington Sven Alkalaj, is open about the clandestine resupply operation.

"There's no problem ac-

quiring arms," he said. "There are lots of arms sellers in the world who have access to any kind of weaponry you wish to buy."

But still the embargo hurts. "It makes prices three or four times higher than they would be. Money has to be considered."

If the U.S. and other governments officially disregard the embargo, Mr. Alkalaj has a shopping list ready, topped by long-range artillery and anti-air weapons to counter the Serb advantage in siege guns and armour.

The London broker has just the thing: the classic U.S.-made M-19 grenade launcher, an anti-personnel weapon that doubles for anti-tank duty.

"It was used effectively in the Gulf war," he said, speaking by car phone from a crowded London motorway.

But this dealer, who asked not to be named, is not sure the breaks will fall his way.

"Competition will be tough. The Bosnians and others already have proven routes and proven people who have broken the embargo for them."

Sam Cummings, relaxing in the Bernese Alps, sounds less worried.

One of the world's most successful arms brokers, founder of the U.S.- and British-based Interarms Inc., the amiable American has been a reliable vendor for many of the wars of the post-World War II period.

And he's been put on call for this one — which he says he has sat out because of the embargo.

"Some weeks ago, we were approached by a key NATO country," he said by telephone from his Swiss home. "They asked if they could take our 10,000-plus Kalashnikovs if and when

the embargo is lifted, and we answered yes, subject to licence."

The guns are now Chinese-made AKM assault rifles, stored at Interarms' British warehouse. Although the United States is the only "key NATO country" moving towards lifting the embargo, Mr. Cummings would not say who approached him. Nor did he discuss the value of the deal — probably \$1 million or more.

While standby deals take shape, Muslim governments are taking action.

Iran's foreign minister, Ali Akbar Velayati, paid a whirlwind visit to Croatian and Bosnian leaders in Split and Mostar on Monday, and later said "no obstacles exist" for shipping arms to Bosnia via Croatia.

Malaysian officials, meanwhile, announced a crash programme to organise arms supplies to Bosnia. Islamic countries that do not ship arms directly may at least help finance Bosnian purchases.

Mr. Sray, the intelligence analyst, believes all the rearming will do the Bosnian army little good. It is too unprofessional and ill-disciplined to recover much land from the better-trained Serb forces, he writes, but Bosnian commanders "cling to the unrealistic perception that the military balance continues to move slowly in their favour."

However the war turns out, Mr. Cummings in his Alpine perch can see far down the road to a time when old business ties are rebuilt.

"We represented the Serbs and their arms factories in Serbia for 25 years," he said. "We hope to represent them again someday."

LETTERS

'Adding insult to injury'

To the editor:

I READ, with great surprise, your article regarding the future plans for the TCC (TCC boasts telephone channels to 4,000) Jordan Times, Aug. 5, 1995. I continue to be amazed that no-one is doing anything about this embarrassing situation. Anyone trying to make a call between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. will have to try 10 times before striking a successful connection. The "lines-are-busy" recording is becoming part of our daily lives; and if a connection is made, you then have a 50/50 chance of getting a busy signal. Hundreds of thousands of people who still don't have telephones in their homes or offices.

As if adding insult to injury, the TCC declares that it is planning to add 250,000 lines by 1998. First, one doesn't need three years to add 250,000 lines. These lines could be added within 45 days if the TCC had proper management. In addition, I expect that by the year 1998, we will need over 2,000,000 lines (yes, two million). At the rate telecommunications is progressing, these lines will be used up with room for additional expansion before the end of the decade.

In any modern country (and I consider Jordan a modern country), the "engaged" signal has become a thing of the past, and so has the notion of no having a telephone. Anyone with heavy telephone usage can call their local TCC and order additional lines, which are usually supplied within 24 hours. And, dare I say, this is all done by telephone, rather than having to send someone to the TCC to speed several hours filling forms and obtaining certified documents.

I cannot imagine the disaster we are going to face when the Amman summit takes place. Imagine the international visitors who will come to Queen Alia International Airport, only to find eight pay phones, out of order.

I urge the people concerned to take immediate and drastic steps to solve this problem.

Marwan Atallah,
Amman.

Common sense — a key to success

IT IS impossible not to notice the workers dressed in orange overalls, who keep our city clean and tidy. In fact, Amman is a clean capital, and we are proud, grateful and give all the credit to the municipal authorities which have worked around the clock in order to achieve a very special goal. The pleasure is real driving through the city's streets late at night and find them so clean and bright.

On the other hand, one cannot but feel concerned about careless acts committed by some, who apparently hold very little respect for ethics, and none for the tireless efforts of the municipal workers. I am confident that a few will disagree, when I say that it is very common to see flying objects thrown by the drivers or passengers of passing by cars. We often, watch with dismay, persons, who clean their car of garbage and dump it on the street, while waiting for the traffic light to become green. Of course, drivers who do that do not regret their actions because the man in orange is always there to clean up the mess. After all, isn't this what he gets paid for? I wouldn't really like to go into details and describe the kind of attitude or language one might be subjected to if he should dare to criticise those drivers. This I leave to our reader's imagination.

For fellow-citizen it is high time halt selfish and intolerable behaviour and start learning to live by the laws of ethics and respect for each other. Let us campaign and raise public awareness among peoples from all walks of life and emphasise that keeping our environment clean and healthy is a top priority and a duty that everyone must carry out with diligence. If our city is need of more litter bins and trash containers, there is no doubt that the authorities will spare neither efforts nor funds to provide them.

Mrs. Rumiana M. Nusseibeh,
Amman.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.

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Samuel Beckett...
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To be what...
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To be what we...
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saw an entire city...
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Alvin Lewis, co-p...
(1983).

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In spite of every...
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Louis Brandeis, C...
(1941).

Weekender

Aug. 10, 1995

A

Published Every Thursday

SOCIETY ON THE MOVE

Shuffles, festivities and weddings keep summer rolling along

Everybody knows or has heard of Jordan's leading columnist, Tareq Masarweh. He is the fellow who blasted the government long before there were tabloids which have taken much of the credibility out of critique. Mr. Masarweh is also a man who can take his own medicine and has been known to right a wrong in his daily Al Ra'i column. More recently his columns steer clear of issues which target the powers-that-be, so perhaps it is not at all surprising to learn that Mr. Masarweh has been appointed as an advisor to the Prime Minister. Yes it is official. But before you start for the telephone, consider what may have slipped many a person's mind, but certainly not someone somewhere in government. Mr. Masarweh has given time to Jordan Radio and Television, to the foreign service as press attaché to Jordan's embassy in Bonn and to the Department of Press and Publications for an approximate grand total of just over 19 years. So to round off his interminable tenure, a stint at the Prime Ministry, with reportedly possible responsibilities at the Ministry of Information, would do the job and thus bring Mr. Masarweh into the 20-year club of civil servants at which point he could retire with full government benefits. So while he finds himself an office either on the already fully occupied fourth floor at the Prime Ministry or somewhere near Secretary General Nayef Mawla at the Ministry of Information, it will not be his movement so much as his words that will be in check, particularly if like others at the Prime Minister's office he is able to continue filling his favourite space — first column, back page — Al Ra'i — on a daily basis.

Keeping bankers' hours: In Amman from Washington on a "bank mission" is Sultan Lutfi, former number two at Jordan's embassy in the U.S. and before that at our mission at the U.N. Dr. Lutfi is starting his fourth year with the World Bank as assistant to the executive director representing 11 Arab countries and the Maldives. Saudi Arabia is excluded from this group as it has its own executive director. The former envoy's work revolves around deciding on bank policies such as lending, as well as representing the constituent countries within the group. Mr. Lutfi is accompanied by his wife Nora, who also works for a banking giant — the U.S. Federal Reserve Board — as manager of the division of bank supervision and regulation. Mrs. Lutfi's specialisation is capital adequacy. The two "grey pinstripers" hold rather demanding positions and thus Mrs. Lutfi, who is a former Jordan Times reporter, will return to the U.S. Sunday, while her husband will stay on in Amman until Aug. 25. He will accompany on arriving, Mr. Lutfi's son, who talks with officials here. He said he hopes to be back for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) economic summit in October. Sultan and Nora Lutfi are accompanied by their two young children, Omar and Kathleen, who are said to be having a wonderful time too.

Grab that microphone: Nearly colliding with facility preparations for the economic summit is an Arab Song Festival, organised annually by the Arab Broadcasting Union, and this year being hosted by Jordan Television (JTV) today at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC). This by-invitation-only, one-day event is to be filmed by JTV under the supervision of Assistant Director General Zeid Fariz for live broadcast on Channel 1 and by Arabsat to the rest of the region. The festival is actually a competition, with performers from the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Tunisia, Lebanon, Algeria, Morocco, Egypt, Yemen, Oman, Mauritania, Palestine and Jordan staging their talents in lyrics, music and song in hopes of taking home the grand prize: the Golden Microphone and \$6,000. Representing Jordan will be Rami Shafiq and Ayman Tayseer. The guest of honour is Samira Tawfiq from Lebanon. Also expected to attend (not participate) is Tawfiq Al Nimri. The festival was originally scheduled to take place at the Palace of Culture, but renovation teams tearing out and replacing furnishings there have a major deadline to meet as the opening of the MENA summit is planned for that site. As soon as the song festival crowd vacates the RCC, the staff will also come under the clamour



SALAMEH & SALAMEH: Salameh Ne'matt (Al Hayat correspondent) carries off his new bride Rita Salameh (a graphic designer with Al Kutba publishers) after the two took their marriage vows at a ceremony in the Greek Orthodox church in Sweifiyeh. Under a near full moon in the garden of L'Oliver Restaurant in Abdoun, the couple's friends feasted on fine food, including ice-cream cones, and danced till the wee hours of the morning when Rita and Salameh were scheduled to take off on their flight to Spain where they are now spending their honey-

moon. Seen among the nooks and crannies of the romantic garden were Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti, Minister of Transport Samir Kassar, Legal Advisor to His Majesty the King and to the government Awn Khasawneh, and Jordan Information Bureau-Washington Director Rania Attala (who is on home leave for a month), as well as a fun-loving group of foreign diplomats and journalists, all of whom make for good "sources," but who cared about that on such a night!

of hammer, says and sings since the centre is also destined for a major facelift which Director Iyad Kanan says will bring the RCC up to standard to serve as the site of the regular sessions of MENA and for many future regional and international conferences of the October summit sort.

A message in variety? The Fuheis Festival, now the sixth such annual event started by the youth club of same name, has this year produced a rather eclectic programme. The programme includes lectures on, for example, "The Responsibility of the Intellectual," and an accompanying debate with renowned Abdul Rahman Munif which was held Tuesday, and exhibitions on Jordan's tourism sector, Kurak, the life of the late prime minister, Wasfi Tel, the 25th anniversary of Al-Ru'i, the German struggle against fascism, museums of churches, abstract art exhibitions plus traditional folklore and children's art. On Friday, the festival organisers, bonding with the Fuheis Women's Society, will host an 11:00 a.m. reception for women in honour of the coming World Conference on Women in Beijing to which Jordan is sending a large delegation. With such a line-up of events, one cannot really call this one your run-of-the-mill cultural festival. But pure entertainment has not been scotched from the hilly town's annual display of talents. In fact popular singers and dancers will come from various Arab countries to participate in the festivities. They are Syria's Elias Kuram, Palestine's traditional dance troupe, Al Hunouna, and Jordanian popular entertainer Odeh Ziadat and Lebanon's legendary singer Wadia Safi who used to sing with Fairuz and

not enough, the "Summer '95" organisers have built several diverse activities into their month of art including a three-night run, starting on Aug. 24 of "Al Zaroub," a play directed by Samia Kazmou Al Bakri. A film week featuring the life and works of a different world renowned master of art begins Sept. 9. The young and old can also pick up some tips from the experts during the planned workshops on printmaking with Rashid Diab, and paper-making using local plants and natural fibres with Susan Faneh. But, hurry. Registration for printmaking ends Aug. 31, and for paper-making the deadline is Sept. 14. In keeping with a principle of Darul Al Funun, to provide free art education to the community, the programme includes four nights of lectures to be presented by Usama Khalidi ("3D Experiments in Sculpture"), Rashid Diab, Rifa Nasiri and Khalid Khreis ("Contemporary Arab Printmaking"), Dr. Khreis again ("Materials in Contemporary Sculpture") and Ammar Khammash ("Petra through the lens of an architect"). And what would an extravaganza be without music? On the final day of "Summer '95" Darul Al Funun will present a tasteful selection of folklore music and dance.

Sirens and wedding bells: Last night Maysoun Ali, daughter of former Public Security Department Director General Fadel Ali and Myasar Keiluni Ali, wed Khalid Hidayat, son of Mohammad Hidayat and Aida Iman Hidayat, who live in Saudi Arabia. Maysoun is a political science undergraduate at the University of Jordan. Khalid studied interior design in the U.S. and completed a masters degree in the same science in London. But at the time of his marriage, Khalid was putting his talents to work in his family's designer clothing business in Jeddah. The couple will take up residence in Amman at least for a period or least long enough for Maysoun to complete her studies, then they will be off to Saudi Arabia. The wedding took place at the InterContinental Hotel. The newlyweds will head first to the U.S. for a grand tour, then hop off to the steamy Caribbean for a sun-filled honeymoon.

Following on the heels of his immediate predecessor, current PSD chief, Lieutenant General Abdul Rahman Adwan, will tonight witness the wedding of his son, Yasser, to Rania Tarawneh, daughter of Mahmoud Tarawneh, who just happens to be a retired Brigadier General in Jordan's security forces. Yasser, a graduate of Yarmouk University, is now director of the office of His Royal Highness Prince Ghazi Ben Mohammad. His Majesty King Hussein's cultural secretary. His bride is a graduate of sociology from the University of Jordan. The couple, who will spend their honeymoon in Turkey, also selected the InterContinental as the site of their nuptials. Could it be all these security chiefs know something we don't? Mabrouk!

Art to the rescue: If you are becoming depressed or concerned that the summer is almost over, just look what the power of positive thinking can achieve. The folks over at Darul Al Funun have put together a one-month art extravaganza which they have simply called "Summer '95." From Aug. 21 to Sept. 28 nearly every inch of the "Little House of Art" will be filled with works of more than 40 contemporary artists. A hefty 3H of those will, by their works on display, inaugurate the first public exhibition of creations from Darul Al Funun's printmaking studio. Among them are Her Royal Highness Princess Wijdan Ali and her daughter Princess Rajwa Bini Ali (who will also display her sculpture in a one-woman show), the artistic duo of Khalid Khreis and Clara Amado Khreis (who met while studying art in Barcelona) and Iraq's Rifa Nasiri. In the airy library Usama Khalidi will exhibit 3-D experiments in calligraphy. The North Gallery will host "Early Morning Scribbles" by Lebanese artist Anine El Bacha and Princess Rajwa, and, sure enough, "Late Night Scribbles," by Mr. El Bacha and Ali Bermamei in ink and water-colour on paper. Within the walls of the Blue House Hala Hilmi Hodeib will exhibit her works in photography which she has named "Elements in Harmony." And in the Blue House garden Iraqi artist Nuha Radi, who is paying her usual summer visit here from Baghdad, is releasing her "Embargo Art" of painted stone and steel. Now if that were

Former Minister of Awqaf, current Senator and Chairman of the Board of Al Dusiour Arabic daily Kamel Sharif and Reem Shant Sharif, will gain a son. Monday evening when their daughter, Fanan, will wed Omar Basel Quisli. Omar is the eldest son of Iraqi diplomat Basel Othman Quisli who was posted to Amman from 1983-1990 as press attaché. The bridegroom, who spent most of his life in Jordan, studied civil engineering at the University of Jordan and now works in partnership in a local business. Fanan studied law, also at the same university. She was recently employed at the Ministry of Education's Legal Department. They have opted for the Forte Grand Hotel to celebrate the matrimony. These soon-to-be newlyweds will also reside in Amman when they return from their honeymoon in Turkey. If the world is as small as it is said to be, they might just bump into Rania and Yasser eating some of Turkey's world famous ice-cream. Neither Omar nor Fanan plans to give up their careers.

Jennifer Hamarneli

THOUGHTS FOR THIS WEEK

We are all born mad. Some of us remain so — Samuel Beckett, Irish novelist-playwright (1906-1989).

To be what we are, and to become what we are capable of becoming, is the only end to life — Robert Louis Stevenson, American novelist (1850-1894).

He who is unable to live in society, or who has no need because he is sufficient for himself, must be either a beast or a God — Aristotle, Greek philosopher (384 B.C.-322 B.C.).

Freedom of speech and freedom of action are meaningless without freedom to think. And there is no freedom of thought without doubt — Bergen Baldwin Evans, American author (1904-1978).

To be what we are, and to become what we are capable of becoming, is the only end to life — Robert Louis Stevenson, Scottish novelist (1850-1894).

As the bomb fell over Hiroshima and exploded, we saw an entire city disappear. I wrote in my log the words: "My God, what have we done?" — Robert Alvin Lewis, co-pilot of the "Enola Gay" (1918-1983).

We are all snobs of the infinite, parvenus of the eternal — James Gibbons Huneker, American author and critic (1860-1921).

In spite of everything I still believe that people are really good at heart — Anne Frank (1929-1945), in her diary entry of July 15th, 1944.

Behind every argument is someone's ignorance — Louis Brandeis, U.S. supreme court justice (1856-1941).

Student project solves problem for tool-maker

Engineering a future

By Nick Miller

Nader Masadeh a Jordanian student, hasn't even graduated from college and already companies are beating a path to his door. The reason: an idea the mechanical-engineering student came up with as his senior project at the University of Cincinnati College of Applied Science.

Masadeh, 22, designed a mobile test stand that saves time and money for manufacturers of machine-tool engines called spindles. The unique device won Best-of Show at the college's recent Tech Expo '95 and is already being used by LeBlond Makino Machine Tool Co. in Mason.

Building and testing the spindles formerly require two stands. After the spindles — some weigh 1,300 pounds — are assembled on one stand, they must be moved to a second stand designed for operating and testing the engine.



Jordanian Nader Masadeh shows the test stand he designed for use with

machine-tool spindles at LeBlond Makino

"That meant you had to unbolt the spindle and use a hydraulic lift cart to move it and then bolt it back down on the second stand," said Masadeh. The new device allows assembly and testing on a

single stand and it is attracting the attention of manufacturers LeBlond Makino.

"Several companies approached me during the expo and I'm thinking about getting a patent," said Masadeh.

The design came after Masadeh was hired by LeBlond Makino last September. He was given several engineering-related problems by the company from which to choose his senior project. He decided finding a way to end the necessity for two spindle finding a way to end the necessity for two spindle stands would have most immediate impacts on the company's manufacturing process.

It's worked so well that LeBlond Makino is building another one for its Mason facility. Masadeh's project is just one of many that businesses have scooped up over the years, said CAS Associate Dean Cheryl Dunn — The Cincinnati Post.

Of software and fish

By Jean Claude Elias

Who has never seen cartoon drawings depicting a big fish swallowing a smaller one, then being swallowed itself by a bigger one, and so forth? This pattern, or "system," to speak in computer terms, often repeats itself in business behaviour.

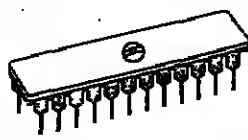
In most industrialised countries, in large cities mainly, huge department stores and shopping centres are killing small groceries and shops. Even in Amman, the three new king-size supermarkets operating in the Western side of the city certainly have a negative impact on the more traditional, smaller supermarkets.

The software industry seems on an identical track. Of the hundreds of companies that were active in the mid and late eighties, designing programmes for personal computers (PC), very few are still in business, having been purchased by bigger ones. Three of them consequently have reached the size of whales: Microsoft, Novell and Lotus.

Contrary to what people may believe, software development is not an inexpensive operation. Sure, it doesn't take exorbitant investments in material and equipment — simple, affordable PCs and some peripheral equipment often are enough for the project. What makes software costs soar mainly is the highly qualified brainpower and the time it takes to design, develop and test a package (a ready-made commercial programme).

Currently the average Windows-based PC product requires the effort of three to six generously paid specialists for about two years. The actual cost should also take into consideration the after-sales support and follow-up any respectable software house must ensure to its users. The whole business is so demanding that rare are those who even think of

chip talk



diving into such high and dangerous seas.

The high costs have made software development a risky venture for small and mid-sized enterprises. Only the very big can afford it. Naturally, Microsoft, Novell and Lotus are not the only companies surviving in this field. However those three have made the gap in financial size, technical capability and marketing power between them and the others so big that they have a virtual monopoly on the market.

Small countries like Jordan host no whale-sized software companies. Many organisations in the Kingdom however have proven to have analysts and programmers that are not only technically skilled, but who also possess a good dose of creativity and originality — essential ingredients for successful software recipes.

Separately, those companies stand no chance of writing a success story, even on a regional scale. United, they could achieve something worth the undertaking. The whole Middle East unfortunately has a very poor history when it comes to efficient team work — the only way to avoid being swallowed by a big whale. Could software specialists in Jordan be different and prove history wrong one day?

The real world

By Samer Ghaleb Bagaeen

The long awaited holidays are finally here, and about time too. A well earned break is very much needed. It's time to forget and leave behind all the troubles and mishaps of the past few months. It's time to go somewhere. Anywhere. Also need to find new things to do. Fully intend to start going to the club again. Have not been there for a while. Wonder what the people there are like these days?

Flashback! Remembered why I stopped going there in the first place and decided to think of alternatives for recreation. Could travel to Taiwan or Malaysia, I suppose, or maybe Japan. Cannot believe that it has already been a year since I have been to Sweden.

Anyway, it is the first day of the holiday, and a late start to the day is perfectly in order with the new times.

10:03 Alarm clock goes off. Open eyes, stretch arms and notice the curtain being blown in because the window was left open all night. Get out of bed and switch on the radio. Decide to listen to Capital 95.8 FM playing the charts.

10:25 Prepare coffee hastily, pick up newspaper, and squat in front of television.

10:30-10:40 Watch Euronews's news summary and the weather forecast. Another hot day in store.

10:40-11:00 Flip through the television channels to see if there is anything worth watching. Cannot decide what to watch: Could watch the comedy, it is good to have a few laughs in the morning, or could watch the preview of the latest movie releases; a bit of violence can't hurt either.

11:00 Euronews again.

11:05 Nothing new, so decide to do some cleaning

up around the house. Get up, which involves taking feet off chair, unplugging fan, switching off television and knocking off coffee. Go bring cloth to clean up coffee.

11:13-11:53 Notice, for the first time in quite a while, the Bob Marley poster hanging over the bed, which read: So it was in the beginning, so it shall be in the end, happier days will come again. Start in the end, thinking why life cannot be so simple. Also notice the Mailed Art poster bought in Sweden last summer. Realise what an interesting concept "objects of art sent to the exhibitors through the post from all over the world" was, and decide to find out whether the number on the entry ticket bought at the exhibition had won anything in the draw. Has been a year, but is worth trying anyway.

11:53 Decide to get dressed and to go to the post office to see whether any mail has come in recently. Has been a few days since the last time I looked. Nothing.

12:35-12:49 On the way home, listen to the voice on the radio discuss the comfort of mail being delivered right to the doorstep. Feel happy for a while before remembering that it is the first of April. Who are they kidding?

12:49 Remember I left the radio switched on at home.

12:59 Time to have an early lunch.

2:00 p.m. Back to the business of cleaning up around the house. I am really excited about getting something done before the family comes over for dinner later tonight. Have not yet figured out what to order from the Chinese takeaway place down the street. Very sleepy though. Maybe I will close my eyes for a few minutes. The couch looks comfortable enough.

6:53 p.m. Oh God.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuqair

FANTASTIC FACTS

★ The top-selling post card of all time was said to be a drawing by Donald McGill (1875-1962) with the caption:

He: "Do you like Kipling?"

She: "I don't know, you naughty boy. I've never kiplied!"

It sold about 6,000,000. Between 1904 and his death, McGill sold more than 350,000,000 cards to users and deltiologists.



★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ The longest personal letter based on word count is one of 1,113,747 words written in 8 months ending in May, 1976, by Jacqueline Jones of Lindale, Texas, to her sister Mrs. Jean Stewart of Springfield, Maine.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ The oldest national anthem is the Kimigayo of Japan in which the words date back from the 9th century. The anthem of Greece constitutes the first four verses of the Solomos poem, which has 158 verses. The shortest anthems are those of Japan, Jordan and San Marino, each with only four lines. Of the 23 wordless national anthems, the oldest is that of Spain, dating from 1770.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

LET'S CHAT IN ARABIC

— He is a good eater and a good sleeper, too.
Ennahu akool wakathirun 'nawm, aydan.
— She is two years younger than I.
Ennaha asgharu minni besanatain.
— You are a big head. Ennaka thoo aqliyaten jahbara.
— I think this is a family matter.
Azonn annaha mas'alatan aa'eliya.
— I have lived hard times.
Laqad eshtu awqatan asseebatan.
— You are a lucky fellow. Ennaka rajulon mahzouz.
— I read a real love story.
Qara'tu qissantan gharamiyatan haqiqiya.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

TIME FOR FUN

★ SON: "Father, my shoes have worn out. Buy me a new pair, please?"
FATHER: "Son, it's very hot now and the holes in your shoes could be of great help in ventilating and cooling your feet!"

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ THE CARELESS PUPIL: Hello, Hello! Is this the bank manager?
BANK MANAGER: Yes, yes, who's calling? Can I help you?

PUPIL: Would you kindly tell me 7x9 makes what?

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

BRUSH YOUR MEMORY

FOLLOWING are 20 names of birds living all over the globe. Read them once or twice, then turn the page, or close the newspaper, and see how many of them you can remember.

SCORE: PERFECT score is 18, GOOD is 15 and AVERAGE is 10.

[SISK, WATER PIPIT, PENGUIN, KIWI, WAG-TAIL, ROBIN, SPARROW, TERN, WEAVER, STARLING, WAXWING, SWALLOW, NUTCRACKER, WHEATEAR, RAVEN, WREN, HAWK, WRYNECK, SEA-GULL, KILLDEER]

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

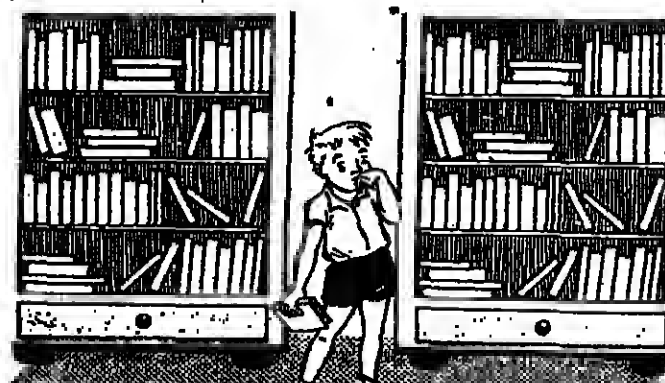
BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. What is a bradawl used for?
2. What name is given to the passages and corridors in ships?
3. What substance in our blood is named after a kind of monkey?
4. Who was called the "Father of Medicine?" the "Father of English Poetry?"
5. What is the dance of the bees?
6. Why might an animal suffer if it attacks a toad?

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

PUZZLES

JACK thinks he's seeing double, for the books in both of these bookcases appear to be in exactly the same position. But there is one small difference. Can you spot it??



JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, Aug. 10

1:30 Iris-The Happy Professor
1:40 Noddy
2:00 Fireman Sam
2:15 My Secret Identity
2:30 N.B.A.
3:00 Pirates Island
3:30 Take Your Pick
4:00 I Witness Video
5:00 Spirou
5:30 Varieties And Game Show
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 Magazine — Portrait D'Alain Cavalier
7:30 News Headlines
7:35 National Geographic
8:30 The Album Show
9:15 Murder She Wrote
10:00 News In English
10:25 Movie — Other Side Of Love

Starring: Cheryl Ladd & Jean Smart
A woman is sentenced to 15-year imprisonment only to leave her kids in the care of another woman.
12:00 Shogun
Friday, Aug. 11
1:00 Read-A-Deed-Deed-A-Deed
1:15 Beethoven
1:30 Why I Didn't Think Of That
2:00 White Fang
2:30 Movie — A Young Connecticut Yankee In King Arthur's Court
Starring: Michael York & Theresa Russell
The story of a young promising Rock N' Roll amateur whose ultimate dream is to perform, in King Arthur's Court.
4:00 The Crystal Maze
5:00 Spirou
5:30 Film — Nous Deux
7:00 Le Journal

7:15 Magazine — E=M6
7:30 News Headlines
7:35 African Skies
8:00 Coach
8:30 Jordan Today
9:15 Wild Side
10:00 News In English
10:25 Movie — Poison Ivy
Starring: Michael J. Fox & Nancy McKen
12:00 The Powers That Be
12:30 Violin Concerto
Saturday, Aug. 12
2:00 Back To The Future
2:50 Harry And The Hendersons
3:00 Road To Avonlea
4:00 Families
5:00 Spirou
5:30 Documentary — Palettes
6:00 Place En Garde A Vpe

7:00 Le Journal
7:15 Magazine — Fant Pas Rever
7:30 News Headlines
7:35 First Flights
8:00 Major Dad
8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
9:15 Dr. Quinn-Medicine Woman
10:00 News In English
10:25 Movie — Red Spider
Starring: James Farentino & Amy Steel
The story of a headstrong detective who is on a mission of finding out more about the successive murders of old warriors who fought in Vietnam.
11:30 Fortunate Pilgrim
Sunday, Aug. 13
2:00 The Flintstones
2:30 The Mighty Jungle

3:00 Pugwall's Summer
3:30 Movie Magic
4:00 Families
5:00 Spirou
5:30 Reportage — Envoye Special
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 Ushuaia: Le Magazine De L'Extreme
7:30 News Headlines
7:35 Diving In The Red Sea
8:00 Nurses
8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
9:15 Strathblair
10:00 News In English
10:25 Counterstrike
11:30 The Hidden Room
12:00 Keeping Up Appearances
Monday, Aug. 14
2:00 The Animals Of Farthing Wood

2:30 Hey Dad!
3:00 Survival
4:00 Families
5:00 Spirou
5:30 Telefilm — Aime-Toi Toujours
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 French Varieties
7:30 News Headlines
7:35 Camp Wilder
8:00 McHale's Navy
8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
9:15 Harts Of The West
10:00 News In English
10:25 The Ruth Rendell's Mysteries
11:30 Movie — Torn Between Two Lovers
Starring: Remick & Joseph Bologna
The moving story of a woman who finds herself have an affair with a divorced architect. She must finally tell her husband the truth...

Tuesday, Aug. 15

2:00 Captain Planet
2:30 M.A.N.T.I.S.
3:00 The Road To Avonlea
4:00 Families
5:00 Children Programme — Doug
5:30 Magazine — Montagne
5:50 Varieties — Taranta
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 Magazine — Fant Pas Rever
7:30 News Headlines
7:35 You Bet Your Life
8:00 Piglet Files
8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
9:15 True Blue
10:00 News In English
10:25 The Fire Next Time
11:30 New York Undercover
12:00 Grace Under Fire

Wednesday, Aug. 16

2:00 Problem Child
2:30 Super Champs
3:00 Tomorrow's World
3:30 Amazing Stories
4:00 Families
5:00 Children Programme — Doug
5:30 Les Cinq Dernieres Minutes
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 Ushuaia, Le Magazine De L'Extreme
7:30 News Headlines
7:35 Arthur C. Clarke's Mysterious Universe
8:00 Anything For A Laugh
8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
9:15 Heart Of Healing
10:00 News In English
10:25 Prism
10:45 Blue Skies
11:45 Separate But Equal

Waterworld: Will most expensive movie ever sink or swim?

By John Horn
The Associated Press

UNIVERSAL CITY, California — Unmerciful ocean currents. Deadly script problems. Huge cost overruns. A director's walkout. Cutthroat media: Waterworld has faced just about every obstacle — except one: The audience.

The most expensive movie ever made arrived in theaters last Friday after a nightmarish year of struggle. Now for the opening scene: A webbed Kevin Costner urinates in a cup and drinks its purified contents.

Books may be written about the many things that went wrong making "Waterworld." But because the film cost some \$175 million, the final chapter of the Waterworld story can't be written until the crowds decide whether the futuristic thriller is worth the price of admission.

"I hope the film will be remembered as a really great action movie that stretched the genre a little bit," Costner says.

There are two tests for Waterworld — one accounting and the other artistic.

The movie will have to gross about \$150 million in U.S. theatres to be on course to break even when foreign, home video and other markets are tallied.

Potentially more important is the appeal of the story itself — a dark portrait of a post-apocalyptic world where melted polar ice caps have inundated almost all of the Earth's

dry land.

Costner plays a character named the Mariner, an often churlish loner who, as an unfilmed part of the script has it, murdered his own father. The Mariner lives on a hodgepodge tri-maran.

The boat is the Mariner's escape not only from dangerous hoodlums named smokers (led by Dennis Hopper) but also from any other human contact: He wants to be left alone.

With mutated toes and tiny slit-like "gills" behind his ears, the Mariner is able to swim at Olympian speed, a handy talent given the abundance of ocean.

The battle-filled story follows the Mariner as he reluctantly rescues a young girl named Enola (Tina Majorino) and her adoptive mother, Helen (Jeanne Tripplehorn), from the smokers.

Enola bears on her back a strange tattoo that may be a map to dry land — whoever has Enola, therefore, has hope. A key plot point that never made it to the screen helps explain Enola's link to soil: She was found as an infant floating at sea, bobbing in a basket with dirt in it.

Director Kevin Reynolds (Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves) left the film in late April in a dispute with Costner, producer Chuck Gordon and Universal Pictures.

In a furious spat of last-minute editing, Costner supervised the making of a new Waterworld.

The Academy Award-winning director of



Actor Kevin Costner portrays the Mariner in the new Universal Pictures film Waterworld

Dances With Wolves was doubly handicapped from the start: A release date was hearing down on him and people disagreed about his own character.

Universal's stance was: Costner played somewhat unsympathetic characters in both Wyatt Earp and A Perfect World — and neither film was a hit.

Costner, who wanted an angry and distant character, mostly prevailed. In the finished film, the Mariner throws the verbose Enola overboard in

one scene, wallops her mother with an oar in another.

The debut of Waterworld has been preceded by the most negative media coverage of any movie since 1963's Cleopatra, which cost \$213 million in current dollars. The most expensive movie made before Waterworld was last year's True Lies, which cost about \$115 million.

The movie features its share of overwhelming

battle sequences and special effects. Some of the movie's millions are not visible, however, since they went into off-screen delays, not on-screen action. And one scene involving a giant sea creature looked incomplete and confusing.

If Costner and Gordon could do it over again, they say, they would make sure the script was ready before film was loaded in the cameras. And they would not underestimate

the hardship of working on water.

"We were over budget, were over schedule," Gordon says. "Most big action movies are. I didn't really have a sense it was slipping away. I just thought, 'boy, this is bigger than we ever dreamed.'"

Excerpts from an interview with Kevin Costner about his starring role in Waterworld:

Question: If there's a common denominator in your last three films (Wyatt Earp, A Perfect World, The War), it's that you played characters that clearly had more appeal for you than they did for the audience.

Answer: The "W" movies — not for women. I think they do work. I think A Perfect World made money, and I'm sure The War is going to make money, because they're smaller budget movies...

But then there's another measuring stick we have, and that's a stick that I cannot be a part of. Don't get me wrong — I'm a fiscally oriented person. I've made films. I've financed films. I understand what a budget is. I don't throw money around. I've been a part of movies that cost very little and have done things. So I get that. So when I say I don't care, I do care. That's why I'm doing the press today. That's why I stayed with the movie.

That's why I put up my back end (giving up a percentage of the film's gross), so that we wouldn't make mistakes. The movie is going to get hung on me, and I

can't do anything about that. What I can do is be there, and maybe that sounds really noble, but I don't want it to. That's just what it is. It's just simple. It's like you got finals tomorrow, and you have to pull an all-nighter. You gotta do it.

Q: Do you think people have it out for you? Is that part of why the movie got the media attention it received?

A: I don't know what I've done to people. I don't know if they have it out for me. Usually, when somebody has it out for you, it's like you've done something to them. So I can't trace my life and find what I've done to anybody, do you know what I mean? I'm capable of self-examination, and I haven't done anything.

I've maybe failed in a marriage, when people thought a guy who has everything shouldn't have his marriage fall apart. But most people have a life, and they understand what that pain is about. And people who look really closely know that people don't have perfect lives. I've had a blessed life, and in a lot of instances I felt like my life was perfect. But it's not perfect. Things didn't turn out perfectly. It's a life.

Q: How do you think the film will be remembered?

A: I hope the film will be remembered as a really great action movie that stretched the genre a little bit. The genre has been getting lazy. I think we go for the cheap laugh. We blow up a building and

somebody has a cute line about it — a quip. ...When (the Mariner) throws her off the boat, when he hits her in the head with a paddle: Those things can generate a smile. You go. "wow. That's who this guy really is."

I had to fight the mentality of the studio: "To love Kevin Costner, you can't be that way. You can't just hit somebody like that." I said, "I think that's wrong. I think he's actually very generous. She didn't wake up floating. She just woke up with a knot on her head."

Q: And how do you fear it will be remembered?

A: I can't say. I made up my mind that I liked the movie when it was over. I'm not Zen-like, but I have that satisfaction. ...

Q: Do you think it will be a success?

A: I think it deserves to be, because there was a lot of great work — (director) Kevin (Reynolds) included. A lot of great filmmakers worked on this. Everybody kept fighting, and trying to do the right thing. It doesn't deserve to be dismissed. It deserves to be seen. ...

Whether it's the perfect movie, or whether it's the best movie — there's going to be one of those in your life. I haven't seen the perfect movie yet. And only one movie is going to be your favorite. So it can't be made to occupy anyone of those places. But it can be designed to have moments that you're never, ever going to forget.

Julie Christie: Fantasy blonde back treading the boards

By Robert Woodward
Reuters

LONDON — Her beguiling smile illuminated the swinging sixties. A fantasy blonde who won an Oscar, she fell in and out of love with Warren Beatty before slipping away from the spotlight to live on a farm in Wales.

Now Julie Christie — the dreamy heroine of Dr. Zhivago, the grief-stricken mother of Don't Look Now — is back, forsaking the world of films which made her famous to make her London West End debut in the Harold Pinter play Old Times.

Reviewers are divided about the quality of Christie's first stage performance for 25 years. She is not stretched playing Kate, a woman whose past and arty flatmate of 20 years ago come back to disturb the tranquillity of her life with her husband.

For much of the play she sits sphinx-like on a sofa, flashing that famous smile before easing around in a bathrobe.

But theatregoers and reviewers are agreed that, at 55, she remains astonishingly beautiful, all but untouched by age. The star quality that attracts every eye in the theatre is undimmed.

"Christie's stage voice is small, but her serenity is permeable, her raptness enchanting," said the Observer newspaper.

"She looks very beautiful, of course, but the radiation of that beauty is what counts."

"Christie's Kate, behaving as all the best erotic icons should, preserves an air of elegant detachment: Like some prize cat... she rests curled up, watchful on a red sofa, as though glad to be savoured," enthused the Evening Standard.

Christie's role, which has few speeches of any

length, is perfectly suited to someone 'who, like Marilyn Monroe and Barbara Streisand, has great difficulty remembering her lines.'

This shortcoming meant Christie, who was brought up to think that only the stage mattered, was naturally drawn to films and television when making her way as a young actress.

A small part in her debut film Crooks Anonymous in 1962 led to her lead role as tough, sexy, self-confident Lizzie in director John Schlesinger's Billy Liar.

Christie's sexuality in the role made her a star overnight and she was quickly installed as one of the faces of 1960s London. Her 1965 role as the free-loving heroine of Darling, also directed by Schlesinger, won her an Oscar, and in the same year she starred opposite Omar Sharif in Dr. Zhivago.

Christie says she was "like a leaf in the wind" during the 1960s and looks back fondly on a time when youth seemed about to rule the world.

"I feel very warmly about the sixties. It's very convenient to criticise that time now, but I think young people then were doing something quite remarkable," she said recently.

The combination of her beauty and what one critic called her "enigmatic frost" kept Christie in top

flight roles for a decade — Fahrenheit 451, From The Madding Crowd, The Go-Between, McCabe And Mrs. Miller and, in 1973, Don't Look Now.

Her role as Laura Baxter, the distraught mother who goes to Venice to try to forget the death of her drowned child, contained a sex scene with Donald Sutherland so explicit that cinema audiences were not convinced the couple were acting.

The break-up of Christie's long relationship with Beatty, a disenchantment with Hollywood and an increasing social awareness meant her appearances on film became fewer and fewer.

"Masses of what I did in films was dress," she says now. Critics say her choice of roles was flawed and some say her lack of acting talent forgotten in the face of such beauty.

Born in 1941 in Assam, India, where her father was a tea plantation, Christie has rarely followed a straight path either in her life or her career.

Her parents sent her to live in England with a foster mother she had never met and she was expelled from a convent school for telling "rude stories." Her upbringing may explain why she has never married and never wanted children.

After leaving hedonism and Hollywood behind, Christie gave her support to a plethora of political



Julie Christie with Rod Steiger in Dr. Zhivago

causes and campaigned for feminism, the environment and animal welfare.

She now lives with a campaigning left-wing journalist and was happily settled in her Welsh farm when director Lindy Davies persuaded her to tread the boards again.

A short run of Old Times in a small Welsh

theatre was a sell-out success and the play transferred to the West End early in July. Christie's husband in the play is played by Leigh Lawson, married to another, sixties icon, the model Twiggy.

Christie is happy to be back but pleased that the past, and the pressures of real fame, will not be repeated.

"The past hardly exists for me. You try to react to this conception of yourself which is absolutely unreal," she says.

"I'm uneasy with stardom, it's so undemocratic. But I'm glad I've experienced it because now it's not something on the other side of the fence."

Syrian TV director takes Arab drama to the world

By Issam Hamza
Reuters

DAMASCUS — The Syrian television director who produced one of the Arab World's first pop videos is now selling his television drama Falcons to Latin America, Asia and Islamic countries.

"The success of Falcons means we are countering the invasion of international drama works by sending our own works to the world," said Najdat Ismael Anzor.

Anzor told Reuters that

several networks in Latin America would run a dubbed Spanish version of his series. A launch ceremony would be held in Buenos Aires in October.

An English-language version of the series produced by the Dubai Television Authority was in preparation for network in Japan, China, Indonesia, Malaysia and Islamic countries.

"Falcons has already won acclaim in the Arab World, winning the gold medal for best camera

work and best costumes at the Cairo Arab Television Festival in July.

The series, about the adventures of an Arab tribal leader and his three sons and one daughter, was the main show run by Arab satellite networks during this year's holy Muslim fasting month of Ramadan.

Speaking on the set of his new drama series called Brothers Of The Soil in Sweida, south of Damascus, Anzor said Arabs could sell their television to the world if they

mastered advanced international styles and techniques.

But Arab television drama too often relied on dialogue instead of exploiting the visual strengths of the medium.

"I used to watch Arabic drama series and I found that I was able to know what was happening only by listening to the dialogue and without seeing the show."

"I believe this is not visual drama because the camera has big capacities

which we can utilise to serve our purposes."

"By mixing the visual language and the spoken language we can make a new image which could give more meanings and more rich ideas," he said.

Anzor is the son of cinema director Ismael Anzor, one of the pioneers of the Syrian cinema. His father learned his craft in Austria in the 1920s and in 1931 directed one of Syria's first movies, called Under The Sky Of Damascus.

Anzor, 53, began his career in 1972 making

television advertisements and produced about 1,000 in 10 years.

In 1978 he directed a television film called A Picnic On The Sand with Jordanian and British actors. It won the bronze medal at Baghdad's First TV Festival after entries from Spain and Japan.

In 1979 he produced one of the first pop video clips in the Arab World for Jordanian group Mirage.

Anzor said he did not hold rehearsals but ran

sessions with the actors to tell them what he feels about the work in general and their roles in particular.

"I imagine the character and choose an appropriate actor to do it. Ninety per cent of my choice has been good... I depend to a very big extent on new actors. In my last work there are 30 new actors who are taking big roles and they appear for the first time."

Anzor said his latest work Brothers Of The Soil, set during the last days of Ottoman rule of

the Arab World, was one of the biggest television drama productions in the Arab World and the most expensive television drama made in Syria.

A big budget, which he declined to disclose, would finance 150 actors and 30,000 extras seconded from anti-riot police squads and youth organisations.

The work would be produced by Al-Sham Company, owned by the sons of Syrian Vice President Abdul-Halim Khaddam.

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Wednesday,
Aug. 16

2:00 Problem Child

2:30 Super Champs

3:00 Tomorrow's World

3:30 Amazing Stories

4:00 Families

5:00 Children's Program

me — Doug

5:30 Les Cinq Derniers Minutes

7:00 Le Journal

7:15 Ushuaia. Le film

zine De L'extreme

7:30 News Headlines

7:35 Arthur C. Clarke

Mysterious Universe

8:00 Anything

Laugh

8:30 The Bold and Beautiful

9:15 Heart Of The

Means we are countering

10:00 News In English

10:25 Prism

10:45 Blue Skies

11:45 Separate But

Common vitamin deficiency could trigger heart attacks

By Paul Raeburn
The Associated Press
BAR HARBOR, Maine — A simple vitamin deficiency could trigger 30 per cent to 40 per cent of the heart attacks and strokes suffered by American men each year, a researcher reported.

This startling revelation, emerging from a few dozen new studies, means that vitamin supplements might prevent many of those heart attacks, saving the country untold suffering and billions of dollars in medical costs.

The vitamin is folic

acid, bared in recent years for its critical role in preventing birth defects.

Folic acid is found in green leafy vegetables such as brussels sprouts, spinach and lettuce, and in many fruits, including apples and oranges. It is also available in most common multiple vitamin supplements.

"This is so new there aren't recommendations," said Dr. Judith Hall, a geneticist at the University of British Columbia. She described the new findings at a genetics meeting at the Jackson

Laboratory in Bar Harbor.

Dr. Hall, who specializes in the study of folic acid and birth defects, has called for the addition of folic acid to wheat, rice and corn to prevent birth defects, just as iodine is added to salt and Vitamin D is added to milk to prevent other deficiencies.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is now considering such a move.

Studies have shown that ensuring adequate folic acid levels in women when they get pregnant could

cut the rate of birth defects in half. The job could be accomplished at a cost of about 1 cent per person per day, Dr. Hall said.

The importance of folic acid is now growing even more as studies begin to suggest that folic acid might likewise produce reductions of up to 40 per cent in heart attacks and strokes. So far, the studies on folic acid and heart disease have been done just on men.

While the link to heart disease isn't proven, Dr. Hall and others are suggesting that boosting folic

acid intake should be done now, even before more conclusive studies are done.

Dr. Jacob Selhub, the author of a paper published in the New England Journal of Medicine in February that linked folic acid deficiencies to increased risk of strokes, was more conservative than Dr. Hall, estimating that folic acid deficiencies might be responsible for 15 per cent to 20 per cent of heart attacks and strokes.

But both agreed that the link between folic acid and heart disease was very

strong.

"These studies have been repeated 30 to 40 times by the many other people," Dr. Selhub said in a telephone interview. He is the director of the Vitamin Metabolism Laboratory at Tufts University's Jean Mayer USDA Human Nutrition Research Centre on Aging.

In a recent discussion of the studies, Dr. Meier J. Stampfer of the Harvard School of Public Health, an authority on heart disease risks, said "It will be prudent to ensure adequate

dietary intake" of folic acid because "the weight of the evidence is substantial."

The researchers noted, however, that it is still important to control fat and cholesterol in the diet, because they are separate risks for heart disease. Ensuring adequate folic acid levels will not protect against the evils of an unhealthy diet.

Dr. Selhub's study and others published in recent months have shown that high levels of a natural substance called homocysteine — which has many

roles in the body — are associated with an increased risk of heart attacks and strokes.

The studies suggest that the higher the level of homocysteine, the greater the risk of heart attacks and strokes. Increasing the amount of folic acid in the diet reduces the level of homocysteine.

About 400 micrograms of folic acid per day seems to be enough to lower homocysteine to a safe level, Dr. Hall said, protecting against heart attacks, strokes and birth defects.

Pesticides are a common ingredient in baby food

By Darlene Superville
The Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Pesticide residues in three leading baby food brands pose possible health risks to children although the levels are "well below" government limits, environmental groups contend.

Baby food companies said there was no need for alarm.

Sixteen pesticides were found in eight different baby foods from Gerber,

Heinz and Beech-Nut, including some that may cause cancer or disrupt the hormone system, according to a report by the environmental working group and the National Campaign for Pesticide Policy Reform.

While acknowledging that the detected levels met U.S. government standards, the report said the baby food "still contains residues of pesticides at levels that have not been shown to be safe for infants."

The groups also said that any congressional action to repeal longstanding pesticide safety standards could allow even greater amounts of harmful substance into the American supply of raw and processed foods.

"I don't think we should have a food panic," cautioned Dr. Philip Landrigan, professor of pediatrics at Mount Sinai Medical Centre in New York. "I think baby food is very safe, but we have to do better than we're

doing."

The National Academy of Sciences reported in 1993 that children are more sensitive to pesticide residue on fruits and vegetables than adults, and that the government should do a better job of protecting them from that risk. But at the same time, the academy endorsed a diet for children that is rich in fruits and vegetables.

The environmental groups called for a separate set of pesticide stan-

dards that would apply to infants and young children.

Spokesman for Gerber, Heinz, Beech-Nut and the National Food Processors Association disputed the notion that children aren't adequately protected under current standards, noting that the Environmental Protection Agency considers infants and children when setting overall pesticide standards.

"All Gerber baby foods are safe. You cannot make or buy a safer baby food for your babies," said spokesman Van Hinder. He said Gerber's

pesticide elimination programme examines the entire food process, including soil, seed, growth, harvest and processing.

Heinz and Beech-Nut also have stringent programmes to reduce the amount of pesticide residues in their products, company spokesmen said.

Jars of applesauce, green beans, peaches, pears, garden vegetables or peas-and-carrots, plums, squash and sweet potatoes were bought in Philadelphia, Denver and San Francisco, the report said.

Of the 72 samples, mul-

tiple pesticides were found in all of the fruits and two of the vegetables tested, the report said. Fruits contained more pesticides and at higher levels than vegetables, though all of the detected levels were within federal standards, according to the report.

"Baby foods and other foods appropriate for infants and children are safe," said Dr. Rhona Appelbaum, executive vice president for scientific and regulatory affairs at the Food Processors Association. "While this report never actually says that these foods are un-

safe, it does imply very clearly that consumers should be worried about the foods they feed their children."

Richard Wiles, vice president of research at the Environmental Working Group and author of the report, said "testing pesticides on adult animals gives little insight into how an infant would react to the substance. The groups want pesticides to be tested on infant animals, but the food industry opposes that in favour of a single standard for everyone."

Glasses may make children's eyesight worse

WASHINGTON (R) — Prescribing glasses to nearsighted children may actually make their vision worse, scientists said Monday.

"It raises the possibility that lenses can exacerbate the problem of myopia," said Josh Wallman, professor of biology at City University of New York, citing a recent study of how spectacles affect monkey's eye development.

Speaking in a telephone

interview, Prof. Wallman warned that the study only raises the possibility — and does not prove — that wearing glasses hurts children's vision, because the monkeys wore glasses more powerful than the corrective lenses prescribed to children.

Myopia, or nearsightedness, affects about one in four people. Hyperopia is the term for farsightedness which is less debilitating and also affects about

one in four people.

Both conditions are caused by a configuration of the eye that makes images focus either in front of or behind, rather than on, the retina.

"The crucial thing is to really understand how the eye decides it's myopic or hyperopic and physically corrects itself," Prof. Wallman said.

He said that because developing eyes grow to compensate for perceived myopia or hyperopia,

wearing corrective glasses or heavy reading may convince the eye that it is hyperopic and cause it to compensate.

"The next step is to trick the eye into not correcting," said Prof. Wallman.

The monkey study and an accompanying article co-authored by Prof. Wallman appear in the August issue of the monthly magazine, Nature Medicine.

Aspirin discovery may lead to better pain reliever

CHICAGO (R) — A safer Aspirin with fewer side-effects may be marketed in years ahead now that researchers have unlocked the ancient mystery of how the pain reliever works.

"The drug companies are already hot on this," said Dr. Michael Garavito, of the University of Chicago Medical Centre.

"The bottom line is that one can now build a better Aspirin. It won't be more efficacious, but it would be safer to take," said Dr. Garavito, who together with French scientists has shown how Aspirin and pain relievers like it stop pain and inflammation.

Aspirin has been used by humans for thousands

of years. It was first taken as a herbal preparation made from willow tree bark and then synthesised in pure form a century ago.

Its chemical dynamics remained a mystery until recently. They have now been explained by Dr. Garavito and colleagues at the Institut de Biologie Physico-Chimique in Paris.

Aspirin already was known to interfere with the activity of an enzyme called Prostaglandin H2 Synthase, or PGHS, which helps produce pain-signalling prostaglandin hormones.

Using X-ray crystallography, the Chicago-Paris team looked at how

Aspirin acts on PGHS at the molecular level. They found that the enzyme is a crystal with a tube running through its centre.

"Normally, the chemical precursors of prostaglandin move up through this channel," said researchers in a summary of their ground-breaking article published in the August issue of the journal Nature Structural Biology.

Aspirin gets inside the tube and "blocks the channel, preventing the precursors of prostaglandin from moving further up the channel and keeping them from ever reaching" a key spot where they would normally become fully-formed

pain signalers.

Dr. Garavito said the team also found that the body makes two types of the prostaglandin-forming enzyme — PGHS-1 and PGHS-2. One has to do with pain, signalling, and the other, doesn't, but Aspirin blocks both.

By re-engineering Aspirin and similar pain relievers so that they block only the PGHS enzyme associated with pain, the drugs could be made more selective.

Unintentional side-effects of repeated Aspirin use, such as thinning of the blood and stomach ulceration, could be minimised by such a new drug, Dr. Garavito said.

Researchers link flawed gene combination to Alzheimer's

By Claudia Coates
The Associated Press
PITTSBURGH — Researchers have added a combination of flawed genes — found in one out of every 600 people — to the list of factors linked to Alzheimer's disease.

University of Pittsburgh researchers announced that they have identified a gene flaw which, in the presence of another flawed gene already linked to Alzheimer's, could greatly increase the likelihood of developing the illness.

Dr. Steven T. Dekosky, who co-authored the study, said it demonstrates the complexity of Alzheimer's and noted the gene combination is only a link, not a direct cause of the disease.

The risk of developing the disease depends on many factors, including how long a person lives, and whether they have had head injuries.

Two other genes have been identified as direct causes of Alzheimer's.

"This all of a sudden becomes a heart disease-type problem. There are a number of ways you can get it," said Dr. Dekosky, director of the university's Alzheimer's Research Centre.

About four million people nationwide have Alzheimer's, which progressively destroys memory and judgment. Of those, 400,000 have the familial,

or inherited, form. The remaining 3.6 million have sporadic Alzheimer's, among them, about one in every five — or 720,000 people — carry both flawed genes.

In the general population, about one in every 600 people carry both of the risky genes linked to the disease.

The study by Dr. Dekosky and M. Ilyas Kamboh, an associate professor of human genetics, was published in the August issue of Nature Genetics.

They found that individuals with two flawed act genes as well as two flawed APO-E genes are 34 times more likely to develop Alzheimer's than an individual with normal genes.

Alone, an abnormal act gene also increased the risk of Alzheimer's by 1.5 times.

"This is probably going to be the first of several fairly rapid discovery of susceptibility genes," Dr. Dekosky said.

Subjects in the study

were divided into two groups. The group with Alzheimer's consisted of 225 individuals. About half of them were living and the data on the other half was collected by autopsy. They were compared with a group of 315 people who appeared not to have the illness.

Dr. Dekosky stressed that age remains the greatest risk factor for Alzheimer's. Nearly half of all people who reach age 85 will contract the disease.

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

AWFUL-GOOD
By Diane C. Baldwin

ACROSS

1 Young person	24 Climbing plant	41 Lumber room item	51 Father's name
5 Cattle	25 State with	42 Water carrier	52 Mother of Apollo
9 Playwright	26 Wordy TV show	43 Condition	53 Pi symbol
12 Eyeglass	27 Wordy TV show	44 Tropical fruit	54 Rectangular table
13 "Fish Rose"	28 Wordy TV show	45 Kind of cancer	55 Ruler's partner
14 Almond	29 Wordy TV show	46 Denial of tropical	56 Kind of wine
15 "Older brother"	30 Wordy TV show	47 Denial of tropical	57 Kind of wine
16 "Older brother"	31 Wordy TV show	48 Denial of tropical	58 Kind of wine
17 "Older brother"	32 Wordy TV show	49 Denial of tropical	59 Kind of wine
18 "Older brother"	33 Wordy TV show	50 Denial of tropical	60 Kind of wine
19 "Older brother"	34 Wordy TV show	51 Denial of tropical	61 Kind of wine
20 "Older brother"	35 Wordy TV show	52 Denial of tropical	62 Kind of wine
21 "Older brother"	36 Wordy TV show	53 Denial of tropical	63 Kind of wine
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172 "Older brother"	187 Wordy TV show	204	

Dictators should not sleep easy

By Andrew Neil

THE FRENCH government has denied that one of its fighter-bombers dropped a one-tonne laser-guided bomb on the Palestrina suburb of the Bosnian Serbs (last month), an apparent attempt to assassinate an aide to their leader, Radovan Karadzic, in revenge for the Serbian murder of two French peacekeepers, the latest of many French fatalities in Bosnia. I hope such an unauthorised raid did, nevertheless, take place.

It is encouraging that official denials from Paris have been routine and unconvincing. The Elysee palace was provoked into a terse rejection of reports in the French press — a denial suspiciously similar to the one 11 years ago after French agents had blown up the Rainbow Warrior — only after the French defence minister had commented that such an attack would "constitute an appropriate response to the logic of war chosen by the Serbs." In other words, the atrocities of the Serbs justify a high-tech shoot-to-kill policy towards their leaders.

The words of Jacques Chirac, the French president, also encouraged doubts about the denial. "I immediately ordered a riposte," he said, responding to a question about the two French deaths, "which has been carried out."

Journalists in Pale reported an explosion shortly after a plane flew overhead two weeks ago; there is radiat evidence of aircraft over Pale at that time, and an American "Intelligence" which has the most sophisticated electronic eavesdropping capability, has indicated that a revenge raid did indeed take place.

There is no need to be squeamish about such a prospect. Our only regret should be that the raid failed. Dropping bombs down the chimneys of evil men is one of the few ways in which democracies can make dictators directly accountable for their atrocities. They are prepared to bomb, maim and torture innocent people to get their way — even, perhaps, to leave bombs in trains during the Paris rush hour to intimidate us into submission.

We should leave such people in no doubt that we have the technology to make them pay with their lives — and that we are prepared to use it. Then they might think twice.

The Guardian, of course, is appalled at the thought of such unilateral missions of vengeance. "Daring raids remain a diversion," it opined on Thursday, concluding they were "not the right answer." You could hear this tut-tutting of the liberal left chattering away against the French echoing across north London. But then The Guardian and its core readership is still think the crisis in Bosnia can be handled by an inadequate, indecisive United Nations rather than by resolute action from the NATO allies.

"However defective the U.N. structure (in Bosnia)," said The Guardian, in the editorial that disparaged French denials, "it should be strengthened, not discarded." Thus are well-meaning folk prepared to send British and French soldiers to their slaughter — all because it is more important that they feel good about supporting a war under the auspices of the U.N. than that our soldiers are sent to fight under the command structure most likely to save their lives.

It is an example of what makes me a nervous hawk

on Bosnia. When your allies include The Guardian, the Independent, Radio Cuck and Clive Short, you can be sure that you will have to fight any Bosnian war with one arm tied behind your back (courtesy of the U.N.) and that such allies will mysteriously disappear (to be transmogrified into anti-war activists) once the body bags start returning home. This is what happened during the Vietnam war, which liberals started then turned against when the going got tough.

They will certainly stop you from taking the war to the very hearts of the enemy's leaders, which is what the French apparently tried to do last month. Yet the French could not have had better cause — or chosen a better time to do it. Within 48 hours of the reported French raid, Mr. Karadzic and his army

commander, Ratko Mladic, were indicted for genocide and other war crimes by the special Yugoslav war crimes tribunal of 12 international judges sitting in the Hague.

The tribunal has been gathering evidence for two years and now believes it has enough to charge the Serbian leader and his top general with genocide and crimes against humanity, among others, arising from atrocities perpetrated against the civilian population throughout Bosnia-Herzegovina, for the sniping campaign against civilians in Sarajevo, and for the taking of U.N. peacekeepers as hostages, and their use as human shields.

Among the details of this devastating indictment you will find that Messrs Karadzic, Mladic and their accomplices are "accused of the internment of thousands of Muslims and Croats in detention camps, where guards 'killed detainees, seriously injured them and deliberately imposed upon them conditions intended to bring about their physical destruction'."

The tribunal charge sheet goes on: "Detainees were repeatedly subjected to and/or witnessed inhumane acts, including murders, rapes and sexual assaults, tortures, beatings, robberies as well as other forms of mental and physical abuse." None of this includes the atrocities following the Srebrenica, which the tribunal is now also investigating.

Despite this detailed and well-documented litany of horrors — the first international war crimes investigation since Nazi leaders were arraigned at Nurem-

berg — the brutal reality is that the tribunal is unlikely to succeed in securing a single conviction.

The Serbs do not recognise the tribunal's authority; there is nobody to hand the war criminals over to face trial. Indeed, as its charges and arrest warrants were being issued in the Hague, a British general was sitting down with Mr. Mladic to discuss, on behalf of the U.N., the safe passage of Muslims in his brutal hands since the fall of Zepa.

So the hutchers of Bosnia look like getting off scot-free. It is too much a counsel of despair to say that nothing can be done about it. The post-cold-war world is going to be full of Karadzic and Mladic, with their evil disregard for human rights and international borders, unless the democracies make a stand now.

Perhaps we cannot rid the world of dictators for the foreseeable future, or take action against all the world's atrocities. But where dictators are on the rampage, determined to spread their poisonous rule, as they are now in Bosnia, it is the duty of democracies to make them realise that they cannot act with impunity.

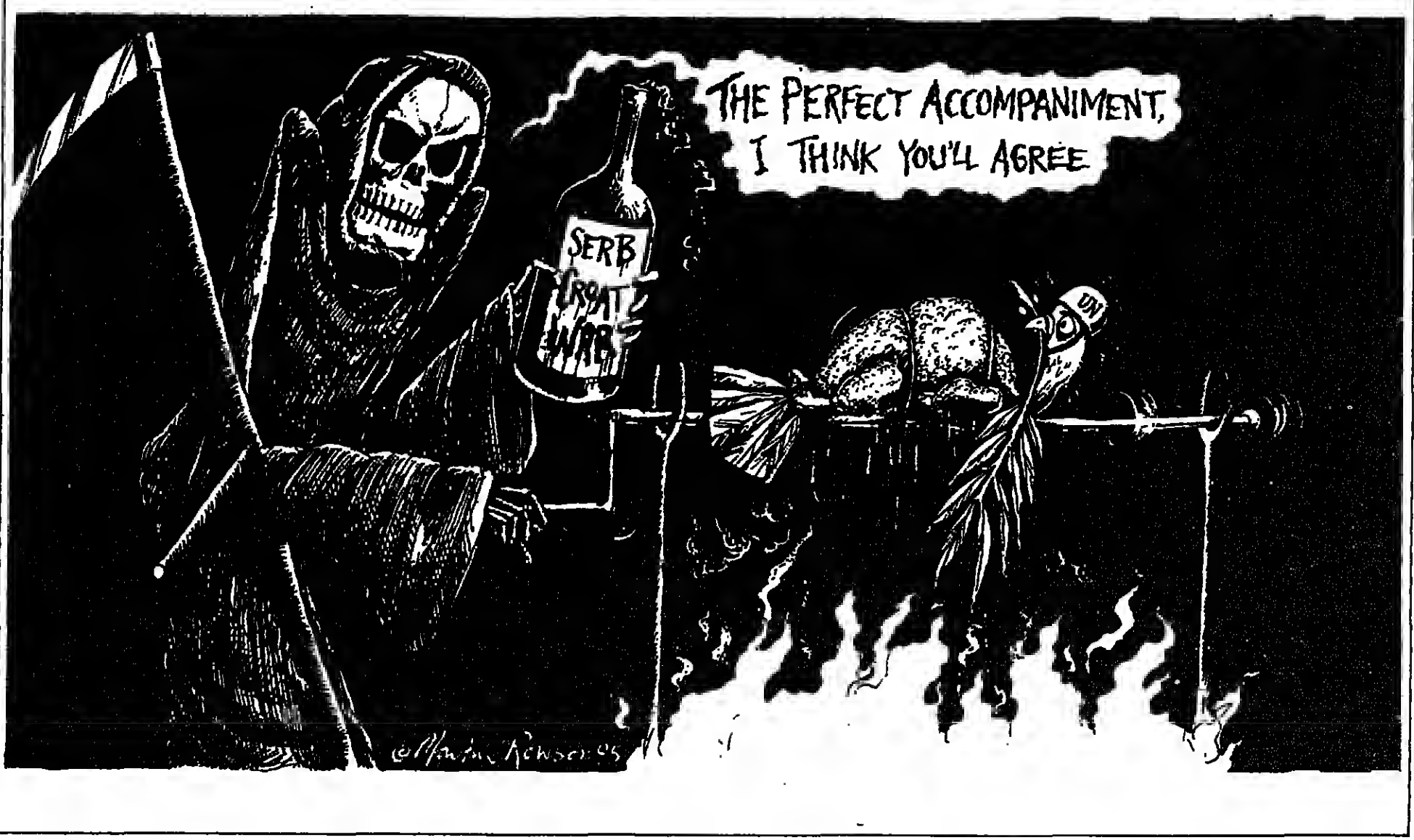
That is best done, in the absence of other remedies, by making them realise that at any time a cruise missile could come soaring down their ventilator shafts, or a laser-guided bomb come dropping down their chimneys. They must be made to go to bed every night not knowing whether they will wake up in the morning. They must be left in no doubt that, at any time, any place, they could pay for their evil with their lives.

It has been said that all it takes for evil to flourish is

for good men to do nothing. In Bosnia, the forces of good have been doing next to nothing for too long. The French missed first time. But Mr. Karadzic should be warned in no uncertain terms that they might not miss a second time. That might concentrate his mind on calling off the slaughter in Bosnia and coming to the negotiating table in good faith.

If he does not, he and his kind deserve to die in any way that modern warfare can accomplish. It is a proper use of such weaponry one of the few advantages the democracies hold as dictators flourish in the new world order. We should not hesitate to use it when it is required. I wish the other allies had as robust an attitude as the French.

Sunday Times



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Sunday Times

Serbian evacuation blocked

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Martić said, adding that he was expecting Krajina Serb volunteers to mobilise soon.

"I have been in the woods fighting recently but I have heard that a great many volunteers in Serbia and Montenegro are willing to come," Mr. Martić told reporters.

However, thousands of soldiers have joined their families in long columns of refugees heading east Bosnia, with several hundred among the estimated 20,000 people already in Yugoslavia.

Several told AFP they felt they had been sold out by the authorities and would never fight again.

The United States said on Tuesday it hoped to take advantage of the Croat offensive to try to breathe new life into the peace process. President Bill Clinton said he was sending a high-level delegation to Europe for talks.

The United Nations said there were thousands of refugees crammed into Dvor and the fighting was extremely alarming.

"The U.N. is also bravely concerned about the tens of thousands of refugees trapped on the road who may have been exposed to fighting in the area," said the U.N.'s Major Rita Lepage.

But a truce deal around the towns of Topusko and Glina seemed to be holding and there was a glimmer of hope pockets of unarmoured Serbs

may be brought to safety, the U.N. said.

The Serbs have agreed to hand over their heavy weapons before they go and the U.N. confirmed big guns were being deposited in collection centres.

Maj. Lepage said some 39,000 Serbs were trapped in Topusko in desperate conditions with very little food or water. U.N. convoys would attempt to get into the area Wednesday, she said.

In neighbouring Bosnia as many as 150,000 people in cars, tractors and on horse-drawn carts fanned out along roads on the slow journey from their abandoned homes in Croatia towards the hope of shelter in Serbia.

"The roads in Bosnia are full of people," said Josue Anselmo, the Belgrade spokesman of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). "It is quite difficult to reach people who need our help and the situation is worsening."

The ICRC said there were dozens of forced expulsions of minority Muslims and Croats from Banja Luka, the main town in Serb-held northern Bosnia, by new Krajina Serb arrivals.

Some 30,000 Croats and 20,000 Muslims still live in the Banja Luka area despite a vicious campaign by Bosnian Serbs to force all non-Serbs out.

U.N. aid workers said Croatian obstructions and the destruction of bridges on supply routes was hampering the delivery of relief.

Hamas renews anti-U.S. threats

(Continued from page 1)

a formal extradition request from Israel.

"The administration of Bill Clinton rejected all official and popular appeals to free Dr. Abu Marzouk and insisted on committing a grave political mistake which will have negative and grave consequences," the statement said.

Israel has said it would seek Mr. Abu Marzouk's ex-

tradition from because he was "engaged in conspiracies to commit the crimes of murder, manslaughter, grievous harm, wounding ... under aggravating circumstances."

Hamas has denied Mr. Abu Marzouk was ever involved in any attacks on Israel and said his calls for ending the campaign of violence had met with disapproval within the group.

Jordan hopes to better ties

(Continued from page 1)

to reject, invasion, oppression, annexation and violence whatever its reasons are," Mr. Kahariti was quoted as saying.

He called for rapprochement based on mutual understanding, common interests and language and avoidance of disputes.

"Our humanitarian positions, which aim at easing the sufferings of the Iraqi people, who are subjected to human rights violations in the most brutal way, are not in contradiction with our political positions, which condemn invasion, violence and force and completely reject (them) as political means to achieving political objectives."

He added Jordan had

mended fences with most Gulf Arab states, and Saudi Arabia had indicated it would shortly resume imports of Jordanian goods and agricultural products.

Jordan hoped to complete the restoration of relations with Saudi Arabia with a meeting eventually between King Hussein and King Fahd, he said.

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah, in an interview with the Jordanian weekly Al Hadath published on Monday, urged Jordan and the PLO to press Iraq to implement U.N. resolutions to help restore their ties with the emirate.

Arab diplomats say the interviews reflect both countries' desire to mend fences gradually.

U.S.: France leading arms seller

(Continued from page 12)

France and the U.K. do not often tie their sales decisions to foreign policy considerations but rather to economic ones, they provide a viable alternative source of arms for some nations to whom the U.S. will not sell for policy reasons," the study said.

Russia, traditionally among the leading arms merchants, "now actively seeks to export weapons as a key means of securing hard currency," the study said.

That is why Moscow, which last year had \$4.6 billion in sales, is seeking contracts with countries that can pay for them, like China or Iran, which in recent years has bought MIG-29s, SU-24 bombers, T-72 tanks and Kilo-class submarines.

According to the Project on Demilitarisation and Democracy, which has waged a campaign under the slogan "No Arms for Dictators," non-democratic countries have been the recipients of 85 per cent of the arms sold by the United States to developing countries in recent years.

France contests figures

France contested the U.S. study.

The study for the U.S. Con-

gress was based on data including the two major contracts with Qatar and Saudi Arabia, a defence ministry source noted, questioning whether these were Third World states.

The source added that 1994 was "the worst year in 25 years for deliveries, that is to say payments," and that orders in 1994 were "the weakest since 1990."

French defence ministry figures put the value of deliveries in 1994 at \$16.8 billion (€3.3 billion) compared with 20.6 billion francs (\$3.3 billion) compared with 20.6 billion francs (\$4.1 billion) in 1993, "confirming the clear downward trend in deliveries since 1991."

The three main export areas in 1994 were Western Europe (42 per cent compared with 33.7 per cent in 1993), the Middle East and North Africa (32 per cent against 40.5 per cent), and the Asia-Pacific (17 per cent against 18 per cent).

For orders, the three biggest sectors were the Middle East and North Africa (55 per cent in 1994 against 65 per cent in 1993), Asia-Pacific (25 per cent against 14 per cent in 1994) and Western Europe and North America (16 per cent against 18 per cent).

S. African parliament opens its doors

By Alexandra Zavis
The Associated Press

CAPE TOWN — When the bell rang to signal another session of the apartheid-era parliament, Slammert Favers used to head for the basement.

One of the first non-white workers at the stately parliament complex 27 years ago, Mr. Favers was banished underground, forbidden to speak to the dark-skinned, white legislators.

Now Mr. Favers, once a cleaner and now a supervisor and sometime messenger, chats with black, white, Indian and mixed-race lawmakers, many in African clothes and shifting with ease from English to Zulu, Afrikaans or Sotho.

"Everything has changed," Mr. Favers said. "The first thing that impressed me was to see the president walk into the assembly, and he shook my hand. That was fantastic."

The new atmosphere in parliament reflects the changes in South Africa since last year's all-race election ended apartheid and brought President Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC)

to power. A new legislature, dominated by blacks, has spent a year overhauling apartheid-era laws and creating a more open, accountable system. The 400-member national assembly and 90-member senate also are rewriting the constitution and drafting a bill of rights.

In the first two sessions of the new parliament, 92 bills passed both chambers. Some took only a few minutes. The 55-page bill establishing a truth commission to investigate the nation's bloody past required more than a year.

Under the former white rulers, parliament merely carried out cabinet policy decisions and passed an average of 130 bills a year. Now the process involves public consultation, with committee hearings and discussion forums throughout the country.

The committees have new powers to amend bills and discuss policy, formerly the exclusive domain of the cabinet.

"In the past, members of parliament were rubber stamps," said National

Assembly Speaker Fanie Ginwala, an ANC member.

"When we came in, we decided we were going to tip the balance in favour of the legislature."

Committee meetings also are open for the first time to journalists, who wander freely through parliament's halls.

Once a sealed fortress, the 18th century brick buildings with a statue of Queen Victoria at the entrance also have been opened to the general public.

Boisterous crowds often pack the public gallery where once only invited dignitaries sat. The premises are used for book releases, conferences and holiday celebrations. School children are a common sight.

Demonstrations take place almost daily. A few years ago, they would have been broken up by police with clubs and guns. Parliament workers, formerly barred from joining unions, even have protested on the floor of the national assembly for better pay.

Only eight women sat in the old parliament, compared with 118 today. The

Press. Mr. Abu Zaydeh said the second stage would start on the eve of the Palestinian elections and include all prisoners arrested before Sept. 13, 1993, when Israel and the PLO signed their historic peace agreement.

The third and last stage would include all remaining prisoners and would start when the Palestinians and Israel begin negotiations on the final status of the occupied territories. Those negotiations are supposed to begin in 1996.

Israel insists it will not release prisoners involved in attacks on Israelis, but agreed last year to set up a joint committee to work out a timetable for freeing the others.

Mr. Abu Zaydeh said the proposal was handed to the Israelis on Tuesday.

legislature had to add women's restrooms on every floor and create a day care centre.

Not everyone has been pleased with the change. "In the old days, parliament functioned like a well-oiled machine," said Barend Geldenhuys, a legislator for the former ruling National Party since 1979. "I can't recall one day that parliament did not start sharp on time. Since April 27, 1994, I cannot recall one day that it did."

He also complained about unruliness among spectators during debates and a recent spate of thefts. Sport Minister Steve Tshwete's car stereo was stolen from the heavily guarded parking area.

But Mr. Geldenhuys also noted a new credibility compared with the 46-year rule of the white-minority National Party, which could pass whatever laws it wanted.

"In the old days, there was a saying that a broomstick could be a (National Party) candidate for parliament and make it," he said. "Now, it is an achievement."

"Israel must know that we cannot afford excluding any Palestinian prisoners, and if this issue is not resolved there will be no agreement."

Israeli Police Minister Moshe Shahal meanwhile warned settlers trying to scupper the peace talks that there could be bloodshed if they block roads across Israel and halted traffic at scores of junctions on Tuesday.

"If the extremists start again, there is a risk that blood will flow," Mr. Shahal said. "The government will not let the country fall into anarchy."

But the far-right group "This is our country," which organised the protests, said it was ready for violence if necessary.

An Israeli court fined a Jewish settler for rioting on Tuesday.

Arafat, Peres work on final deal

(Continued from page 1)

starting six months after autonomy elections. A date still has to be agreed for the vote.

Mr. Peres said the redeployments, which do not cover the 140 Jewish settlements, should be completed in mid-1997.

The 1993 autonomy agreement left vague the question of further redeployment and the Palestinians insisted that this time there must be a clear timetable.

"For the first time Israel has irreversibly committed itself to a detailed timetable," the Haaretz newspaper noted.

Meanwhile, Israeli and PLO delegations held talks just over the border in the Israeli port of Eilat.

On Wednesday's agenda were the major sticking points such as water-sharing, land rights, security control over the flashpoint town of Hebron and the powers of Palestinian police in the 400 Arab villages on the West Bank, Israeli officials said.

Palestinian negotiator Suifan Abu Zaydeh said the PLO would also seek the release of the 6,000 prisoners in Israeli jails.

Under a PLO proposal, the first stage, in which Israel would free sick prisoners, women and minors, would come on the eve of the signing of an Israeli-PLO agreement on expanding Palestinian autonomy, Suifan Abu Zaydeh, a Palestinian negotiator on security and prisoners, told the Associated

UAE Audit Department reports poor performance of government investment

ABU DHABI (AFP) — United Arab Emirates (UAE) government investments have exceeded \$2 billion but they are not yielding enough to support its oil-reliant economy, an official report said Wednesday.

The investments inside the UAE and in Arab and world markets totalled around 7.65 billion (\$2.08 billion), concentrated mainly in joint ventures with official institutions and other governments, according to the state Audit Department, the watchdog of financial activities in the UAE.

Around 1.9 billion dirhams (\$517 million) are invested inside the emirates while 3.02 billion dirhams (\$822 million) are based in Gulf and other Arab states and the rest in world markets, it said.

Return from local investments was as high as 1.2 billion dirhams (\$326 million) in 1992 while it did not exceed 4.4 per cent in others.

"Most of the investments outside the UAE have not

achieved the aspired results, especially in securing new financing sources of the federal budget. Authorities should consider proposals presented previously by the department to take measures about losing institutions," the report said.

It gave no breakdown for the investments but it cited the UAE's shareholding in the United Arab Shipping Company (UASC), which is also owned by Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar and Kuwait. Iraq's 19 per cent membership in the biggest joint Arab shipping venture was frozen after its 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Another investment institution is the Arab space communication corporation Arabsat, which was created in the early 1980s to run Arab satellite activity.

"While UASC achieved a profit return of 6.07 per cent in 1991, it suffered from losses in the following year. Arabsat continued to suffer

from losses in both years. This is added to the losses incurred on the UAE treasury from managing its investment in those institutions," the report said.

The report did not include private assets or those by each of the seven Gulf emirates which make up the UAE — Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ras Al Khaimah, Umm Al Quwain, Ajman and Fujairah. Bankers estimate such assets at over \$50 billion.

The UAE is a key OPEC oil producer, with crude exports accounting for more than 80 per cent of its total exports. A decline in oil prices over the past decade has created a deficit in its federal budget and forced it to cut spending and introduce fees on government services.

Such fees, coupled with return from investments, have boosted its annual non-oil earnings to nearly four billion dirhams (\$1.08 billion) from less than one billion dirhams (\$272 million) in

1985.

This has helped to cut the federal budget deficit and, in some years, turn it into a surplus. The 1995 deficit was projected at around \$290 million but officials expect the actual shortfall to be sharply lower or to disappear due to higher crude prices and a forecast rise in non-oil income.

The UAE federal budget is financed through half the income of each emirate under their interim constitution. But in effect, most of the funds come from the two main oil producers, Abu Dhabi and Dubai.

"The Audit Department" repeats its earlier recommendation for the establishment of an investment fund at the finance and industry ministry. It should be an independent body which will be responsible for drawing up investment plans, implementing them and assessing their performance," the report said.

Jardaneh: Package of laws to improve business climate should be ready this month

By Suleiman Al Khalidi
Reuter

AMMAN — Jordan said Wednesday overhauled economic laws to boost its ability to attract foreign capital should be in place by the end of the month.

"The package of laws will improve the business climate and make it more attractive for foreign investors, enabling Jordan to compete more effectively with other countries in the region and its periphery," Finance Minister Basel Jardaneh told Reuters.

He said foreign investors were offered substantial tax cuts, incentives and a reduction in bureaucratic red tape in a package of economic, tax and investment laws expected to be passed by parliament at the end of August.

Mr. Jardaneh said tax breaks and incentives in the new laws would compensate for Jordan's relatively smaller market, making it more attractive than many countries in the region.

Mr. Jardaneh said the new laws eliminated a high tax structure, reduced the "overall tax structure substantially" while doing away with tax holidays — now five years for

capital projects.

However, selective tax holidays would be retained to encourage investment in less developed regions of the Kingdom, away from the major industrial zones in Amman and Zarqa.

Corporate income tax would fall to 15 per cent from 40 per cent in major areas of economic priority — including mining, industry, hotels, hospitals, he said.

Other sectors will have taxes lowered from 40 per cent to 25 per cent, while tax on banks and financial, insurance and brokerage firms will go down to 30 per cent from 50%.

Mr. Jardaneh said the "concept behind the new tax structure was to achieve more support for savings and investment," while reducing spending in consumption-related businesses.

A major element encouraging foreign investment in the new laws was that it eliminated the "discrimination" between foreign investors and domestic investors and inserts guarantees against expropriation and international arbitration, he said.

Mr. Jardaneh said by-laws, to be passed by the cabinet

before a coming regional economic summit in October, would spell out ownership ceilings that "extend the scope of foreign participation in a far larger manner than what we have allowed."

Existing laws differentiate between a Jordanian, Arab and non-Arab investor, with a 49 per cent foreign limit in ownership of public firms, though 100 per cent stakes are allowed in industry.

The minister said new transparency procedures will also eliminate cumbersome red tape and bureaucracy, with investors no longer obliged to go to committees — now a constant complaint of investors — to get approval for projects or investing in the Amman exchange.

"You do not need to go to any committee... the system has become transparent and the red tape has been reduced to enable the investor to do all these matters in a very easy manner," he pointed out.

Mr. Jardaneh said loss of state revenue from tax cuts would be compensated by raised income from an increase in a sales tax on consumption to 10 per cent from a current seven per cent.

China faces challenges to growth - World Bank

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Reducing poverty, building infrastructure and protecting the environment are the main challenges to China's continued economic growth, the World Bank said.

At a conference in Honolulu, Hawaii Tuesday on the Chinese economy, World Bank vice president for Asia, Russell Cheatham, recalled that China embarked on an economic liberalisation programme in 1979 that led to an average nine per cent annual growth between 1980 and 1990.

China, with 1.17 billion inhabitants, posted 11.4 per cent in 1994. Foreign investment, which totalled \$10 billion in 1990, tripled within two years.

Despite the progress, 100 million Chinese still live below the poverty line, particularly in the northwest, and southwest of the country. That compares with 375 million in 1970.

"The number of poor in cities is rising," said Mr. Cheatham. "As the government relaxes regulations on labour mobility, urban living standards attract some of the 900 million Chinese living in rural areas."

In order to continue its pace of development, China must undertake economic re-

forms targeting the 100,000 state-owned enterprises that account for 48 per cent of China's industrial production.

State firms employ 70 million people, but a third of them lose money amounting to four to five per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP), according to the World Bank.

China also is badly lacking in infrastructure and must invest in ports, energy production and telecommunications, according to the World Bank.

Economic growth has had a negative fallout for the environment as well.

"Pollution now damages 45 per cent of urban aquifers, ever more rivers and lakes fail to meet water quality standards. In most cities, air pollution exceeds safe levels for at least part of the year," Mr. Cheatham said.

He noted that China was among the largest producers of ozone depleting substances and the second largest source of greenhouse gases.

The World Bank, which has loaned China \$2.99 billion in 1995, intends to continue providing aid in three areas: Anti-poverty schemes, infrastructure and the environment. China has been the bank's top borrower in four years.

U.S. bought \$3.6b to prop up greenback over second quarter

NEW YORK (AFP) — U.S. monetary authorities bought \$3.6 billion for yen and German marks to shore up the greenback over the second quarter, the New York Federal Reserve acting for the Treasury Department and the Federal Reserve (Fed) system, spent foreign currency to the tune of \$1.42 billion to prop up the dollar.

Monetary authorities intervened on April 3, buying \$1.5 billion in concerted action with the Bank of Japan at a time when the dollar was trading at 86.50 yen.

U.S. authorities intervened again on April 5, buying \$1.1 billion when the dollar was trading 1.3757 marks and 86 yen. Both the Bank of Japan and the German Bundesbank were involved though it was not known how much they had spent.

The Fed and the Treasury intervened anew on May 31 when they bought \$1 billion in a joint operation with other central banks of the G-10 group of industrialised countries at a time when the dollar was trading at 1.3850 marks and 82.70 yen.

This operation caught traders by surprise and helped stabilise the dollar in June. After its sharp fall at the

start of the year, the greenback nearly stabilised during the second quarter.

It gained 0.6 per cent against the yen, lost 2.1 per cent against the mark and was down 0.3 per cent against a basket of other currencies during the second quarter.

The dollar reached unprecedented lows against the mark and yen during the second quarter but, by the end of June, had regained 2.8 per cent and 6.1 per cent, respectively.

Peter Fisher, executive vice president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, who is responsible for intervention on the money markets, suggested that stabilisation of the dollar lately had been a result of traders' reluctance to take risks in the

IMF delays decision on Sudan

KHARTOUM (R) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has postponed discussion on whether to expel Sudan over its longstanding debts, Sudanese Finance Minister Abdallah Hassan Ahmad was quoted as saying Tuesday.

Mr. Ahmad said the IMF appreciated what he called Sudan's commitment to repay its debts and continuation of its economic reforms.

Sudan owes the IMF around \$1.7 billion and the fund has considered expelling it because it had previously made little attempt to reduce the debt. But Khartoum is

now repaying about \$5 million a month and the IMF is closely monitoring its attempts to curb inflation and privatise state companies.

Mr. Ahmad, quoted by Sudan's official news agency SUNA, said although Sudan has not fulfilled all IMF conditions, the fund considered its economic performance did not warrant lodging a formal

complaint against it.

He said the IMF executive council had postponed discussion of a proposal to recommend Sudan's expulsion to the board of governors.

Sudan's economic reforms have included abolishing subsidies on basic commodities, liberalising trade and selling state corporations to the private sector.

THE Daily Crossword by George Urquhart

ACROSS

- 1 — system
- 6 — aside (discarded)
- 10 Catch one's breath
- 14 Cognizant
- 15 Yoked beasts
- 16 She: Fr.
- 17 Cub Scout figure/native language
- 20 Whirlpool
- 21 Fabric rh
- 22 Hear about
- 23 Storage compartment
- 24 — do well
- 26 Country
- 30 Suitcases
- 33 Representative
- 34 Lose color
- 35 Traitor
- 37 Little-known candidate/condiment
- 41 Broadcast
- 42 Turned right
- 43 "We're off — the wizard"
- 44 Settled snugly
- 47 Container
- 48 Dog command
- 49 Atlas page
- 50 Completely baffled
- 53 "Pequod" skipper
- 55 Facility
- 59 Show-off's expression/active
- 62 Melody
- 63 Western school letters
- 64 Hamburger extra
- 65 City on the Oka
- 66 Ship structure
- 67 Horse blank

DOWN

- 1 Marquis de —
- 2 Man in debt
- 3 Tarnitory
- 4 Military force
- 5 Antique auto
- 6 George M. —
- 7 Skating feat
- 8 Sang to a lover
- 9 Explosive
- 10 Categories
- 11 Seaweed
- 12 Disparaging remark
- 13 Hammer head
- 18 Minnesota player
- 19 Cassini
- 23 The two
- 25 Czech river
- 26 Nothing: Sp.
- 27 Once more
- 28 — Haute, IN
- 29 Sign
- 30 Headquartered
- 31 Ground grain
- 32 Painter's stand
- 34 Independent
- 36 "Of — I Sing"
- 38 Be flirtatious
- 39 Upon
- 40 Morse code signal
- 45 Israeli money
- 46 Athletic group
- 47 Ali —
- 49 Taj —
- 50 Countanton
- 51 Round trip
- 52 Loudness unit
- 54 Pit
- 55 Ferber or Best
- 56 A — apple
- 57 Chimney deposit
- 58 Sicilian city
- 60 Diving bird
- 61 — de plume

Puzzle solved:

ACROSS	AGAMA	ALEX
TROT	RADAR	WARY
TAME	EMILE	AMIS
SWEAT	OUT	ARRANT
MALT	ACID	
PESETA	GLOSSARY	
OPERA	SLIDE	OOE
LEAS	DIANE	VIISA
KEN	BERNE	BEGET
ASSORTED	DURESS	
REED	MIRO	
BREADS	LASTNAME	
TALC	TOOTH	IXIA
URAL	EPALE	CELY
SALE	DANES	ALLS

THE BETTER HALF. By Glasbergen

GLASBERGEN

"Every week I cut the grass and every week God makes the grass grow back. I don't think He wants it short!"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argison

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NOAWG
ARTUNI
DEEMLY

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: SHE WAS

Yesterday's Jumbles: GAWKY MOUNT ENTICE VOLUME
Answer: Changing addresses creates this kind of experience — "MOVING"

Peanuts

YOU'RE EMOTIONALLY BANKRUPT... SCOTT FITZGERALD WAS EMOTIONALLY BANKRUPT... WE'RE ALL EMOTIONALLY BANKRUPT...

Andy Capp

WOULD YOU MIND SPEAKING UP A BIT, ANDY?

DOES YOUR MUM-IN-LAW HAVE TROUBLE WITH HER HEARING, ANDY?

NO, JACK. JUST A LITTLE TROUBLE WITH HER OVER-HEARING.

Mutt'n Jeff

YEAH, MAN, THAT'S COOL!

STOP MISUSING THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ALL THE TIME!

PRETTY SOON WE'LL HAVE ANOTHER BABEL AND PEOPLE WON'T UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER

WELL... THAT'S PVMIXING!

PVMIXING? THERE'S NO SUCH A WORD!

THERE IS NOW! I JUST MADE IT UP AND IT'S IN PRINT!

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 1995
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Early today get some new course started which is inspiring in some new direction not tried before.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Confer with experts confidentially today and gain the information you require for you to succeed. Then make your plans which are important.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Contact those you have met recently and turn them into valuable friends. Entertain them charmingly.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) This is a good day to get into more modern methods of operating so that you become more successful in your career.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You are inspired how to gain greater knowledge and development today and you should waste no time in carrying through with your ideas.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Find the right system today under which to operate so that your business will fare much better. Gain valuable suggestions.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Listen carefully to the suggestions today which a clever associate gives you and utilise them to your advantage.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Use a new system which can make your tasks easier yet productive of greater benefits. A fellow associate could give you a fine idea.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Plan the entertainment with congenial early today so that all will go well. Then get busy handling practical affairs efficiently.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Doing something today which will bring in greater security is wise; so figure out how this can be accomplished for your success.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Become more cognizant today of modern ways to operate and you can produce far more in your daily routines.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Try to see experts you know today and they will give you invaluable information you need. Get your positions improved.

Birthstone of August: Peridot — Golden Quartz

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 1995
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Get that plan well rounded out this morning, and later today you can make the right monetary arrangements with an individual of influence.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Do further research activities today on how to add to your present abundance, and after lunch get into the tasks awaiting your attention.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Devoted pals tell you how you can gain your cherished wishes today, so follow through and they are yours with little effort.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) If you confer with a bigwig you know today, you can make your talent work more profitably. Get to urgent activities with a vengeance.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Study all angles connected with your desire to become more successful today, and then confer with an expert for your success.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Think deeply and come to quick decisions today concerning how you can be more wealthy this morning and tonight.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Come to a real understanding with an associate this morning so that you can later today get into the actual tasks required of you.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You know how to get better results today at whatever tasks you are engaged in, so plan to do just that in a positive way.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You have fine creative ideas this morning and can put them in operation by evening. Early today plan the pleasure you want to have.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Try to make your home more charming today and have more harmony there with your loved ones. This evening is fine for inviting in guests.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Put those ideas to work today which will improve your daily routines and give you a greater income and more prestige in your activities.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Use more modern methods and ideas today if you want to be successful for later tonight. Let practical affairs be first on your agenda.

Birthstone of August: Peridot — Golden Quartz

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Business & Finance

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, AUGUST 10-11, 1995 9

**business
daily
beat**

A review
of economic news
from the Arabic press

Oil pipeline from Iraq to save Jordan JD 20 million

★ A PROPOSED pipeline to replace trucks carrying crude oil from Iraq to the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company in Zarqa will save the Kingdom more than JD 20 million annually, according to the minister of energy and mineral resources. He said that bringing Iraqi crude oil to Jordan now costs JD 30 million and that an increase was expected because truck loads will not remain the same starting next year. As of Jan. 1, 1996, trucks and tankers must abide by a new axial weight law which would reduce tankers' load by 50 per cent. This means that additional tankers must be used to compensate for the reduction and to meet higher demand, thus raising the cost to over JD 40 million. The minister said technical studies on the pipeline were underway and are expected to be complete in two months. Jordan would be paying the company owning the pipeline JD 20 million annually (Al Aswaq).

★ THE CONTRACTING company which was awarded the tender to build a sports city in eastern Amman was put on a blacklist by the mayor of Amman for failing to honour its obligations and to meet the terms of the contract. The Municipality of Greater Amman (MOGA) has started legal procedures to take over the project from the company in order to render it anew. The MOGA will also inform the Association of Contractors and the concerned authorities about the incapability of the company to complete the project despite being classified to implement middle-size projects. The sports city was to be built on 107 dunums at a cost of about JD 260,000 and to accommodate 9,000 persons (Al Dustour).

★ THE GENERAL assembly of the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company has approved the distribution of dividends at a rate of 12 per cent. The company posted a JD 4.95 million net profit last year compared to JD 4.1 million in 1993. According to the annual report total assets stood at JD 290 million at the end of last year. Gross earnings amounted to JD 435 million compared to JD 410.1 million in the preceding year. The company is owed about JD 95 million by Royal Jordanian and the amount is expected to be settled over a 10-year period with a grace period of three years. The auditor's report shows that the government is demanding JD 20.26 million from the company, the amount representing "excess profits" over two periods: 1981-1985 and 1986-1990. The company does not agree to the government claim and there is still a dispute between both parties over the subject. The dispute emanates from the concession agreement signed between the company and the government in 1956. Under the terms agreed then, "profit, including income tax, should not exceed 16 per cent of the share's nominal value and should not be less than 7.5 per cent." Shareholders at the general assembly demanded the amendment of the concession and to have the company operate on commercial basis. They also demanded that the share value be split to JD 1 for easier and simpler trading at the Amman Financial Market (Al Ra'i).

★ THE MINISTRY of Public Works and Housing has signed an agreement with a foreign company to start working on Ras Al Naqaba road. The company is expected to begin working on the project after three months and to complete it in 36 months. The four-lane road will be 86-kilometre long and will cost about JD 40 million (Al Aswaq).

Japanese Export-Import Bank lends \$35m to Nippon Jordan Fertilizer Co.

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Japanese Export-Import Bank has approved a \$35 million loan for the Japanese partner in the Nippon Jordan Fertilizer Company, the Japanese-Jordanian joint venture in fertilizers in Jordan, according to a senior official of the bank. It is the first major credit offered by the Japanese Export-Import Bank for Japanese investment in Jordan. On a bilateral level, Jordan owes the bank about \$100 million, the bulk of it in export credits, according to bank officials. Kaname Nakano, the bank's director of the loans

Ailing Swedish currency boosts tourism

STOCKHOLM (R) — Tourists who have avoided Stockholm for years because of high prices are coming back, making the most of the declining Swedish currency. Tourism officials say they expect 1995 to show the highest ever number of tourists to have visited the elegant Swedish capital by the time the brief but pleasant summer fades in early September. Fuelling the boom is the drop in the Swedish crown which has lost around 30 per cent against major European currencies since autumn 1992 and today stands at more than seven to the U.S. dollar. Although still far from cheap — a glass of beer costs about \$5 at pub prices — the weak currency has made Stockholm affordable and competitive with other European capitals for the first time in decades. Swedish tourism officials expect arrivals to increase by 20 per cent from five million last year. "We have over two million more guest-nights than Copenhagen, for example," a tourist board spokeswoman said proudly. More than 100,000 cruise passengers, mainly from the United States and Europe, will also visit Stockholm this summer, though they rarely spend more than a day in the Swedish capital on their way through to the eastern Baltic Sea. East European and Russian tourists, travelling by low budget bus tours, are further boosting Sweden's tourism and account for the bulk of tourist shoppers in the capital. "Crystal and Swedish handicrafts are the top items on tourists' shopping lists," says the tourism office. For many visitors the charm of Stockholm lies in its distinct mixture of grand European architecture and Scandinavian waterways. More than 50 bridges connect the northern mainland of the capital with a string of islands in the south, giving the "city on the water" a touch of Venetian atmosphere, set off by grand waterfronts lined with well-restored 19th century buildings. "Why did we come here? Of course, to see the beautiful Venice of the north," said a German woman in Stockholm's picturesque old town, popular with tourists because of its romantic alleys and cobbled squares. Across the harbour is the Vasa museum, where a royal battleship that was raised from the seabed after more than three centuries, is on display. A trip through Stockholm's archipelago, which with 24,000 islands is one of the largest in the world, demonstrates how close to nature this city of 1.7 million people is. Only one third of the total area is developed. The rest is given over to water, parks and green areas. "It's just amazing how quickly you enter the countryside. One minute you are in the middle of the city and the next the boat is in a little channel surrounded by fields," said an American tourist. Statistics held by a local tour boat operator show every sixth Stockholm resident has a boat. Visitors, however, can take to the water with equal ease using one of the frequent and relatively cheap cruise services. A popular outing is to Brothningholm Palace, home of the royal family since they moved from their palace in the old town in 1981. It lies in idyllic surroundings on an island just outside the capital.

department for the Middle East and Central Asia, said the loan for the Nippon Jordan Fertilizer Company was granted in line with the bank's policy of encouraging Japanese investments in countries which meet with its criteria. Overall foreign debts and record of serving the credits as well as the general economic policies of the beneficiary country are some of the key elements — in addition to project feasibility and economic viability — that influence the bank's decision. Mr. Nakano told the Jordan Times in Tokyo. In principle, however, the

credit is granted to the Japanese partner in the joint venture. In the case of the Nippon Jordan Fertilizer Company, the Japanese partner includes ZENNOH, the powerful National Federation of Agricultural Cooperative Associations, the Mitsubishi group and Asahino Company. Mr. Nakano declined to discuss the rate of interest and other details of the \$35 million loan. The bank's normal interest rate is slightly lower than that in the international market. Asked how the Japanese Export-Import Bank rated Jordan's creditworthiness,

Mr. Nakano said: "By and large, Jordan meets with most of the requirements that we see as essential to grant loans. But every loan application is studied on a case-by-case basis as is the case with most other countries." Mr. Nakano and Yoshigoro Kumagi, loan officer for the Middle East and Central Asia at the bank, both said the bank had received some proposals for loans that involve Jordan. But they refused to discuss specifics. The Jordanian partners in the \$60 million fertilizer company are the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company and the Arab Potash Company.

Both hold 20 per cent of the equity. The rest is held by the Japanese group. On Tuesday, a group of four Jordanian commercial banks and a state-guided agency, the Social Security Corporation (SSC), signed a \$24 million loan agreement with the Jordanian partners in the venture. The credit is repayable in nine years. Other details of the loan were not immediately available. The fertilizer plant at Aqaba, estimated to cost about \$84 million, will produce about 300,000 tonnes of compound fertilizers every year. The entire output will be exported to Japan, and the

main point of channelling the fertilizers will be the National Federation of Agriculture Cooperative Associations, a highly influential group with billions of dollars in holdings, which fought off strong domestic criticism and went ahead with its investment in Jordan. The annual consumption of compound fertilizers by the federation's members is several times the projected production of the Nippon-Jordan Fertilizer Company, according to Japanese officials. This means a large scope of expansion for the Aqaba plant, they noted.

Lebanese venture to turn slums into playground

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon is following up the success of its Soddere development project with an ambitious real estate venture to transform some of Beirut's worst slums into a prime residential and recreational area. "This is a vital area for the entrance and exit of Beirut," said Fadi Fawaz, who has led preparations for the project for two and a half years. Like Soddere, Elissar is a brainchild of Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri, the billionaire construction tycoon who has launched Lebanon on a feverish drive to rebuild after the war. But unlike Soddere, a public company which raised \$650 million last year by international share flotation, Elissar is not aimed at making big profits for shareholders. It is a non-profit-making, self-financing "public agency" formed by decree and run by a government-appointed board. The slums Elissar will develop are a hotbed of Islamic fundamentalism where the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party

sar plans to turn the shoreline into a tourist development with a seafront promenade and the rest of the area into an orderly residential and commercial district. "We had to create a public agency acceptable to all parties, political, religious, sectarian as well as the municipality, local parliamentary deputies and the people," he told Reuters. "I had to deal with those people in a very tactful and diplomatic way. Hariri was also in negotiations with different groups," he said. "We don't want to do a Soddere project. There were a lot of problems with Soddere... all the people and the sectarian forces there wanted a public agency. They wanted to feel it was subject to all laws," Mr. Fawaz added. Elissar's main aim is to improve conditions for the area's 50,000 squatters, most

of whom fled there from south Lebanon during the war, he said. "People are living there below all acceptable standards of human comfort. They live in small houses and small rooms without any electricity or water," the 36-year-old former construction manager for Hariri's Saudi Oger Construction Company said. "Mr. Hariri wanted to have a solution for the area. He did not accept that people continue to live in this way," he added. Mr. Fawaz declined to estimate the cost of the venture before the newly appointed board starts work. Elissar will build roads and install water, power, telephones and sewage lines. Then it will divide up the land, build 7,250 low-income homes for the squatters and raze the slums to let landowners hitherto unable to develop their property get on with it. "Nobody is going to be evicted from their places before the houses are built,"

Mr. Fawaz declared. That was a reference to a controversy Soddere stirred by evicting Shiite squatters from the city centre after paying them compensation, even if they had nowhere to go. So far Elissar has no capital. But under Lebanese law it will take over 25 per cent of the land to build infrastructure and will also inherit large stretches of government land. What it does not need it can sell to raise capital, Mr. Fawaz said. "This is a self-financing project because the government will be allowed to sell some of the land which it is not going to use for the low-income houses," he added. Other finance will come from "improvement fees" to be charged to property owners for installing the infrastructure and from any band-outs the agency can get from the government. "It's a big project. It's quite a huge project. Everybody will be involved in it," Mr. Fawaz said.

Iranian projects attract foreign firms

ABU DHABI (R) — An Iranian oil industry source said Wednesday that about 100 European and Asian firms have shown interest in 10 oil development projects in Iran despite a U.S. economic embargo. "There have been 100 applicants and we are satisfied and expect the number to increase," the source told Reuters by telephone from Tehran. "The companies are from Europe, Asia and other places."

The Iranian source said Sept. 8 was set as a deadline for foreign oil and gas companies to apply for prequalification forms for the 10 projects which cover oil, gas and condensate fields, gas recovery projects and refinery expansions. Iran said in July foreign firms were allowed to bid for the 10 projects, days after the National A & E oil and gas fields, was earlier granted to U.S. firm Conoco Inc. a unit

of Dupont Co, which was forced by Washington to pull out. "The United States imposed a unilateral trade and investment ban on Iran in June for allegedly fostering terrorism and seeking to develop nuclear weapons. Tehran denies both charges. The \$500 million Total deal, the first major oil contract with a foreign company since Iran's 1979 Islamic revolution, was sealed despite

U.S. pressure on allies and institutions to deny Tehran access to foreign finance. Iran's oil development offer to foreign firms is seen by Iranian officials as another blow to Washington's campaign to isolate Tehran. "The Conoco deal showed that others are willing to cooperate with us. We didn't start this," said an Iranian official who asked not to be named. Iranian officials have said

foreign firms, expected to invest over \$6.5 billion mostly in offshore oil drilling and gas exploration projects, will be chosen based on their reputation and financial back-ground. Western industry executives have said Iran's oil and under-used gas reserves, the second largest in the world after Russia, were too large to ignore, stressing that non-U.S. firms were interested in doing business with Tehran.

Financial Jordan Times

Markets In co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank

Currency	New York	Tokyo
Sterling Pound	1.6005	1.5995
Deutsche Mark	1.4085	1.4114
Swiss Franc	1.7660	1.7689
French Franc	4.8565	4.8735
Japanese Yen	91.37	91.50
European Currency Unit	1.3223	1.3205

Source: Jordan Times, 8/10/95

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	5.68	5.68	5.68	5.68
Sterling Pound	6.50	6.52	6.68	6.93
Deutsche Mark	4.18	4.18	4.18	4.25
Swiss Franc	2.56	2.56	2.66	2.81

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin, 8/10/95

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.705	0.704
Sterling Pound	1.1208	1.1204
Deutsche Mark	0.4968	0.4993
Swiss Franc	0.5992	0.6022
French Franc	0.1440	0.1447
Japanese Yen	0.7666	0.7704
Dutch Guilder	0.4434	0.4456
Swedish Krona	---	---
Italian Lira	0.0445	0.0445
Belgian Franc	---	---

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One U.S. dollar	1.3580/90	Canadian dollar	1.4092/02
	1.5780/90	Deutsche marks	1.1666/76
	1.1666/76	Dutch guilders	28.9700
	28.9700	Swiss francs	4.8685/35
	4.8685/35	Belgian francs	1587.08/0
	1587.08/0	French francs	91.50/60
	91.50/60	Italian lire	7.1550/50
	7.1550/50	Japanese yen	6.2110/60
	6.2110/60	Swedish crowns	5.4640/90
	5.4640/90	Norwegian crowns	---
	---	Danish crowns	---
One Sterling	1.5998/08	U.S. dollar	---
One ounce of gold	\$384.85/35.25	U.S. dollars	---

JORDAN MARKET PLACE

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Al Wihdat's team with the 1994 Premier League trophy (file photo)

Wihdat to face Faisali in Cup Winner's Cup

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Reigning Premier League champions Al Wihdat Friday face Jordan Cup champions Al Faisali in the Cup Winner's Cup — the annual charity match set by the Jordan Soccer Federation (JSF) in which the league and cup champions meet inaugurating the Kingdom's soccer season.

Al Faisali will be after a record 9th Cup Winner's Cup, while Al Wihdat have won the title only twice.

Al Faisali faced Al Wihdat for the Cup Winner's Cup four times winning the title in three of their clashes: 6-4 penalties in 1981, 1-0 in 1986 and 2-1 in 1993. Al Wihdat beat Al Faisali 5-4 on penalties to win the title in 1989.

The JSF was considering the postponement of the

scheduled match at Al Hussein Youth City on a request by Al Wihdat who have four players on the Olympic team currently playing in Taiwan.

The players are Abdullah Abu Zameh, Sufyan Abdullah, Faisal Ahmad, and Munir Abu Hantash.

However, the JSF was informed that the team

would be arriving in Amman Thursday and players would be here in time for the match.

Al Faisali and Al Wihdat have secured at least one title this season. Al Wihdat beat Al Jalil to win the JSF Shield while Al Faisali overcame Al Ramtha to win their record 9th Jordan Cup.

Cup Winner's Cup record

1981	Faisali (Wihdat)
1982	Faisali (Ramtha)
1983	Ramtha (Wihdat)
1984	Faisali (Ramtha)
1985	Jazireh (Amman)
1986	Faisali (Wihdat)
1987	Faisali (Arabi)
1988	No match was held
1989	Wihdat (Faisali)
1990	Ramtha (Faisali)
1991	Faisali (Ramtha)
1992	Wihdat (Ramtha)
1993	Faisali (Wihdat)
1994	Faisali (Ramtha)

Dortmund and Bayern ready for Bundesliga duel

BONN (R) — If big spending is anything to go by, the German soccer championship starting on Friday will be a two-horse race between title holders Borussia Dortmund and the ever-hungry 13-times winners Bayern Munich.

Munich, only sixth last season, spent \$15.4 million on close-season signings to forge a line-up including star striker Juergen Klinsmann which national coach Berti Vogts called "almost a Europe eleven."

But Dortmund, looking to build the long-term dynastic success which has been Bayern's preserve in Germany, landed the jewel of the close-season transfer market by signing the striker of the moment, Heiko Herrlich.

His \$6.4 million move from

Borussia Moenchengladbach, the subject of a bitter wrangle, took Dortmund's signings to \$12.6 million — a figure which the Bundesliga's other 16 sides can only dream of.

However, the pressure is on both teams to live up to their price tags.

"Big names alone aren't enough, they have to perform together," said Bayern's new coach Otto Rehagel of the team built to his specifications as he himself moved at no small expense from a glittering 14-year reign at Werder Bremen.

"It'll take three months to see how good we really are," Gifted Austrian playmaker Andreas Herzog followed Rehagel from Bremen, and Swiss international midfielder Ciriaco Sforza came from Kaiserslautern for a princely

\$5.3 million.

Defending midfielder Thomas Strunz returned to Bayern from VfB Stuttgart, and Bayern already look well equipped in defence to face the loss of Lothar Matthaus should the national skipper not recover fully by the second half of the season from a torn achilles tendon.

But the man sure to fill the Olympic stadium is Klinsmann, returning home after six successful years abroad — to the annoyance of his Tottenham Hotspur — and now elevated to a status akin to national hero.

"Anything less than the title would be a disappointment," said the striker, who has never won a national championship.

Klinsmann could from a forbidding striking force with France's Jean-Pierre Papin, who played only eight league games last season because of injury but is now fit again and raring to bring his career to a close on a high note.

The man who could pose the biggest obstacle is also the one defender Klinsmann singles out for special respect — Dortmund's Juergen Kohler, signed from Italian champions Juventus to bolster a defence which last year conceded just 33 goals.

Kohler is the last of a dozen German stars including Klinsmann who followed the big money to Italy in the late 1980s and early 1990s — and whose return is symbolic of a Bundesliga boom supported by television contracts and record attendances.

Although Bayern and Dortmund have waved the fattest cheques, other clubs have also managed to attract their share of expensive foreign players.

Title runners-up Werder Bremen spent \$5.7 million to lure Argentine striker Rodolfo Cardoso from Freiburg and defender Junior Baiano from Brazil's Sao Paulo.

The 1992 champions VfB Stuttgart paid \$5.3 million to sign Dutch defender Frank Verlaet from France's Auxerre and Bulgaria midfielder Krasimir Balakov Sporting Lisbon.

And Cologne hope to bring back former glory days with the \$2.1 million signing of Nigeria's 21-year-old international midfielder Sunday Olshe from Italy's Reggina.

Sampras ready for Agassi showdown

MASON, Ohio (AFP) — Pete Sampras is back and ready for a showdown with Andre Agassi in Sunday's final of the 1,795-dollar ATP Cincinnati tennis championship.

A year ago, Sampras was nursing a leg injury which brought his most successful season in tennis to an abrupt halt.

Tuesday's fully-fit Sampras eased through the second round beating unseeded Petr Korda of the Czech Republic 6-3, 7-6 (7/3) on the hardcourt here.

"Last year I sat out the summer, missing tennis," said the three-times Wimbledon champion.

"It was tough being forced to watch this event on television. I'd won here before (beating Ivan Lendl in 1991) and it's

good to be back."

Sampras let a service break slip away in the second set against Korda on a steamy night. The second set went to a tie break but Sampras won with a stinging serve that Korda, ranked 42 in the world, could not handle.

"I played pretty well, but I can do better. The first match of the week is always tough," said Sampras.

Agassi starts his campaign against the Czech Republic's Daniel Vacek. Vacek is not fully fit after being hit in the face by partner Boris Becker's racket in Tuesday's doubles clash with Sander Stolle of Australia and American Alex O'Brien. He was forced to abandon.

Man. United turn down Cantona request for release

MANCHESTER (AP) — Suspended French striker Eric Cantona has asked to be released from his contract with Manchester United but the club turned down his request Tuesday.

Cantona's surprise move was triggered by the English Football Association's inquiry into his unauthorized play last month in a friendly match against Rochdale.

The FA said later Tuesday that it would take no action against Cantona for his appearance in the match, saying it was "entirely satisfied" with Manchester United's explanation.

But the FA move did not satisfy the controversial Frenchman.

Speaking in Paris, Cantona's French lawyer Jean-Jacques Bertrand said his client would not return to the England unless the playing ban were lifted.

"Eric Cantona has left England and will not return if the English FA doesn't change," he said.

Aug. 11, its decision banning him from taking part in closed-door training matches with his club," Bertrand said.

Cantona, who has been banned from "all football activities" until the start of October for his kick on a Crystal Palace fan last January, told United chairman Martin Edwards Monday he wanted to leave the club.

"Cantona was very upset at the recent inquiry by the FA concerning his involvement in the training session held on



Troubled French soccer star Eric Cantona (AFP photo)

July 25," the club said in a statement. "He told Martin Edwards that he felt he had little future in the English game and that his career would be best served by a move abroad. He asked to be released from his contract."

"The board of Manchester United has considered the request very carefully but is not prepared to agree to it. Manchester United believe that it is in the best interests of both the club and the player that he remains with Manchester United."

The controversial striker, who signed a three-year contract in April with Manchester United that runs through the 1998 season, played in a "closed-door" match July 25 against English side Rochdale.

A London tabloid paper published pictures of the match, calling into question the terms of his suspension. Under the suspension, Cantona can train but is not allowed to play in any competitive matches — friendly, League or Cup.

World Athletics Championships

Drechsler makes disappointing heptathlon start

GOTHENBURG (R) — Germany's Heike Drechsler, who surprisingly missed out on the medals in the women's long jump, made a disappointing start to her bid for heptathlon gold at the World Athletics Championships on Wednesday.

Olympic long jump champion Drechsler, competing for the first time in the heptathlon at a major championships, could only manage fifth place in her 100 metres hurdles heat in 13.86 seconds.

After clearing 1.80 metres in the high jump, the former east German was down in 10th place after two events with 1,976 points.

Russian Svetlana Moskalets, who won the pentathlon at the world indoor championships in Barcelona in March, led the competition with 2,146 points.

Drechsler's hurdles time was more than half a second slower than her performance when she set a year's best of 6.741 points last season in Talence, France.

The race was won by compatriot Sabine Braun, the silver medalist at the 1993 championships in Stuttgart. Braun clocked 13.41 seconds to take the lead after the opening event.

After the withdrawal of American defending champion Jackie Joyner-Kersey because of injury, Braun is one of the favourites for the two-day competition.

But the European champion hurt her right hand in the high jump and spent much of her time between jumps with an ice pack on her fingers. Braun was way below her best, managing just 1.80 metres, putting her fourth with 2,041.

The 30-year-old German admitted the injury might cause a problem in the shot put later in the day.

"I am going to get it strapped. The problem is I don't know whether I will be able to throw properly," she said.

Moskalets, who clocked the second fastest time of

13.48 in the hurdles, took the initiative in the competition, equalling her personal best by clearing 1.89 metres in the high jump, the best performance in the discipline.

Johnson left to go for ambitious double

Perhaps a double is a little too strong, after all.

Before the World Championships started, athletes were lining up to mix their events, trying rare combinations of two individual events instead of one. Now the line has dwindled.

Marie-Jose Perec changed her mind, deciding against the 400 hurdles even before she won the 400 metres. Haile Gebrselassie is sure he won't go for the 5,000 even after winning the 10,000.

Gail Devers decided before she arrived that she was not going to try and achieve the same double in the 100 and 100 hurdles she came up with two years ago at the championship in Stuttgart.

But Michael Johnson remains on course for his. The American who has won the 200 and 400 metres at different world championships, went for the first leg Wednesday, the defence of the longer event. He plans to go for the 200 starting Thursday.

Johnson's bid to retain the 400 title was one of four finals Wednesday. The others were the women's 1,500 metres, the men's shot put, involving world record holder and leading qualifier Randy Barnes of the United States, and the women's 10,000 metres.

If Perec had kept to her pre-championship aim to win both 400-metre races, she would have had to run the first round of the hurdles not long before the 400 flat final.

"We thought I couldn't do two races," Perec said about herself and coach John Smith. "We had only two hours, 45 minutes between races. It would have been too much for my legs."

"It's better to walk away



American Dan O'Brien, the eventual winner of the decathlon event, clears a hurdle during the 110-metre event at the World Athletics Championships (AFP photo)

from here with one victory than two losses," Smith said.

What appeared possible before the championship proved improbable, especially when Perec collected a hamstring strain.

Gebrselassie said at the start of the championships he would make up his mind about the 5,000 after he had run the 10,000.

The Ethiopian won the

longer race with an impudent burst from a five-strong pack of African stars in the last 200 metres. He waited until one of his rivals moved to the front and then left them all trailing by 10 metres with a surge of speed they couldn't counter.

"This is enough for me," he said when asked about a double never achieved before at the worlds. "I'm not sure I can run the 5,000," he said.

"If I have to run two 5,000s, maybe that isn't possible for me."

Both Perec and Gebrselassie were impressive winners on day five of the championships.

The French runner was ahead for most of the 400 and powered away from a high-quality field, including defending champion Jearl Miles, to win by eight metres in 49.28 seconds.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Hislop joins Newcastle

NEWCASTLE (AFP) — Newcastle were poised to land highly-rated goalkeeper Shaka Hislop after agreeing a 1.575,000-pound deal (\$2.5 million) with first division Reading on Wednesday. Personal terms have also been agreed with the player, who will be officially introduced Thursday after a routine medical examination. The signing takes Newcastle's summer spending beyond 14 million pounds after the purchases of six-million-pound Les Ferdinand, four-million-pound Warren Barton and 2.5-million-pound David Ginola.

Dresden president resigns

DRESDEN (AFP) — Rolf-Juergen Otto, President of relegated German First Division club Dresden, who was arrested on charges of fraud last week, resigned his post here on Tuesday. Arrested on August 2 for fraudulently obtaining money while head of a construction firm, Otto explained in his resignation letter written from jail that he did not wish to "cause the club any more damage."

Americans lead in Admiral's Cup

COWES, Isle of Wight (AP) — The United States regained a narrow overall lead Tuesday over Italy as the Admiral's Cup yachts sailed past the halfway mark of the 605-mile fastest. The three-yacht U.S. team, trying to win the cup for the first time in 26 years and only the second time in history, was clinging to a four-point advantage over Italy when the 24

yachts in the eight-nation field reported their positions Tuesday. The Americans rebounded as Blue Yankee, which had struggled with the calm conditions and slipped to last place in the big boat class, pulled up to sixth as skipper Bob Towse gained ground on Italy's Capricorn in second place.

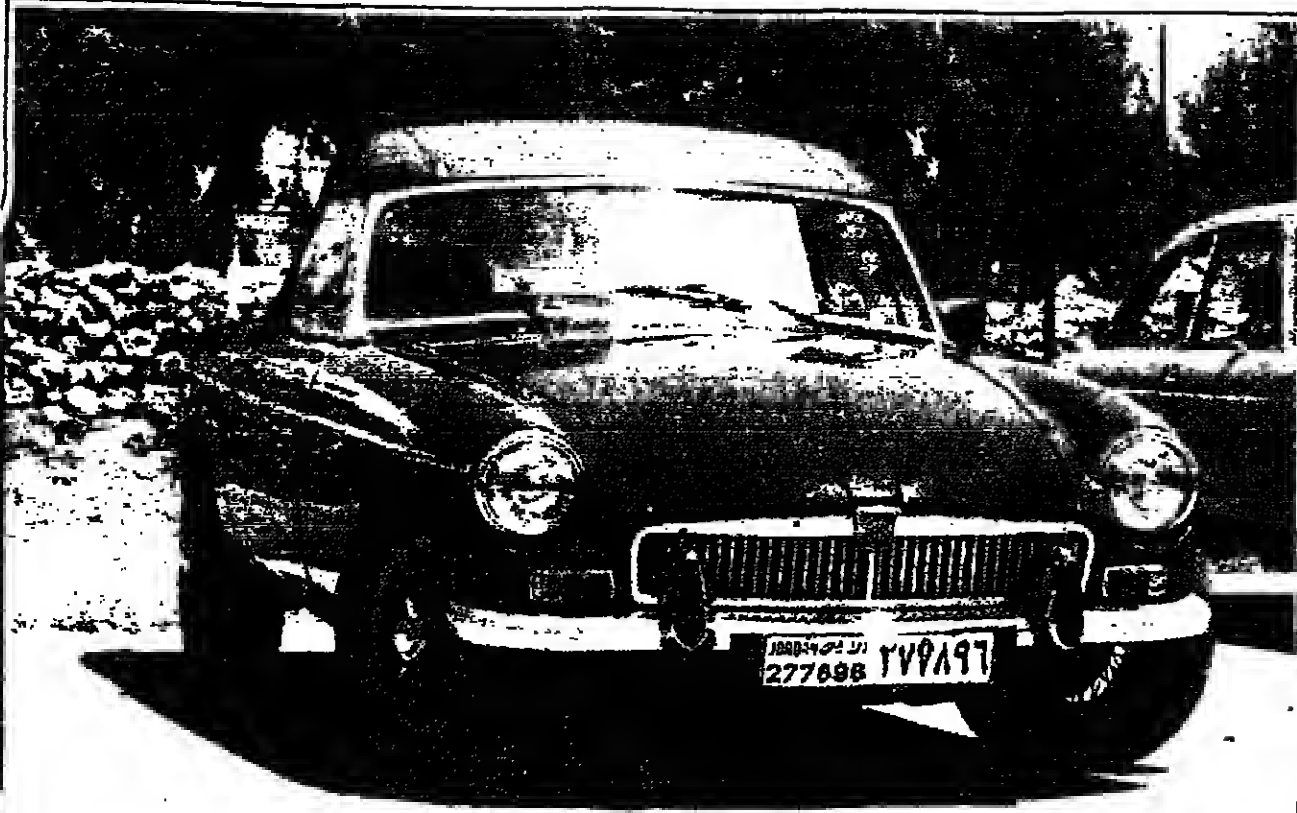
Imola Grand Prix cancelled

IMOLA (R) — A motorcycle Grand Prix planned for September 3 at Italy's Imola circuit to replace a cancelled U.S. race has now also been called off, local organisers said on Wednesday. "It's been cancelled," said a spokeswoman at the Enzo and Dino Ferrari racetrack in Central Italy. The organisers said Grand Prix promoters Dorna had told them on Wednesday they were cancelling the race because there was not enough time to get the track ready. The Imola race was to have been dubbed the Nations Grand Prix but it had looked in doubt for some time.

Barmby optimistic at Middlesbrough

LONDON (AFP) — Former Tottenham striker Nick Barmby will look to build on his England career under Bryan Robson at Middlesbrough. Barmby, 21, a 5.25 million pound (\$7.7 million) signing said Robson was a major influence behind his decision to join the north-east club after five years at White Hart Lane. Barmby, who has signed a four-year contract with Middlesbrough said: "I have been fortunate to be in the England set-up under Robson. I feel he will make me a better player. There was only one decision for me when Robson showed interest. He is a very ambitious manager who won the first division championship in his first year in management."

<p>TODAY AT</p>	<p>CINEMA TEL:634144</p> <p>PHILADELPHIA</p> <p>Meryl Streep with Kevin Bacon & David Strathairn in</p> <p>The River Wild</p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>CINEMA TEL:699238</p> <p>PLAZA</p> <p>Kamal Shinnawi & Ilham Shahin in</p> <p>Easy to Get</p> <p>(Arabic)</p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 5:00, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>CINEMA TEL:677420</p> <p>CONCORD</p> <p>CONCORD "1"</p> <p>Adel Imam in</p> <p>Bakht and Adilch</p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 6, 10:30</p> <p>Ahmad Zaki in</p> <p>The Third Man</p> <p>Shows: 3:30, 8:30</p> <p>CONCORD "2"</p> <p>SPEED</p> <p>Shows: 3:30, 8:30</p>	<p>AMMOON THEATRE</p> <p>TEL:618274 - 618275</p> <p>MUSA HIJAZIN "sumaa" IN</p> <p>Hi Citizen</p> <p>daily at 8:30 pm</p> <p>written & directed by Mohammed Shawaqfeh</p>	<p>Nabil & Hisham Theatre</p> <p>TEL:675571</p> <p>Presents</p> <p>KABARET</p> <p>Abeer Issa</p> <p>Ghassan Mashini</p> <p>with Amer khamash, Khalil Jahmani, Mohammad Hussein and Issam Al Hanbali</p> <p>The theatre closes on Monday</p> <p>Performances start at 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Nabil & Hisham's</p> <p>TEL:625155</p> <p>AHLAN THEATRE</p> <p>presents</p> <p>(Ahlan Tatbee)</p> <p>Welcome</p> <p>Normalisation</p> <p>Shows start at 8:30 p.m.</p> <p>For reservation please call tel. 625155 Amman</p>
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A 1965 MG, one of over 40 classic cars on display at the Amman International Motor show where the 2nd Classic Car exhibition opens Thursday. Other cars on display in the

two-day event include a 1961 Ford Thunderbird, a 1972 Lamborghini Espada, and 1961 Jaguar MKII.

Martinez, Sabatini advance in Acura Classic

MANHATTAN BEACH, California (AP) — Conchita Martinez, one of the hottest players in women's tennis, tuned up her hardcourt game with a 6-3, 6-2 victory over German Christina Singer in the Acura Classic on Tuesday.

No. 3 seed Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina struggled in her first hardcourt tournament since March before beating Kristie Boogert of the Netherlands, 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (7-2).

Martinez is coming off a tournament victory in San Diego last week, and owns semifinal finishes in the three Grand Slam events leading up to the U.S. Open this month.

"I'm playing great. Last week, I played some unbelievable tennis. I was feeling very confident," Martinez said.

Martinez, seeded second, received a first-round bye as one of 16 seeds.

"It's like starting all over again," she said. "The first rounds are always difficult because you have to play with a high level of concentration."

Martinez broke Singer twice in the second set, the last time at love for a 3-0 lead. Leading 5-1, the Spaniard had a match point, but Singer twice got to deuce and won the game when Martinez's forehand passing shot went wide.

Martinez wrapped up the match in the next game with a forehand winner. She has worked to adjust her game to hard courts after playing primarily on clay in Spain.

"I'm being more aggressive," she said. "On hard courts, everything is going to be a little bit faster, you have to move quicker, but I'm getting used to it."

Sabatini had never played the 56th-ranked Boogert, who wasn't afraid to serve-and-volley when she wasn't matching the Argentine's baseline power.

Boogert led 5-4 in the final set before falling apart.

She double-faulted twice, allowing Sabatini to tie the set 5-5.



Gabriela Sabatini

"I was probably thinking too much about Gaby instead of my game," Boogert said. "Experience also has a lot to do with it. Gaby has had a lot of chances to win matches."

Sabatini held for a 6-5 lead, then committed two straight errors to let Boogert back in the match at 6-6.

Boogert fell behind in the tiebreaker with four straight errors. She missed a backhand wide to set up the first match point. Sabatini double-

faulted for only the second time and then won the match on another error by Boogert.

"I didn't expect to have a really tough match. I was up and down," Sabatini said. "I didn't feel very comfortable going to the net. She was hitting very deep. I probably should have tried a little bit more on her second serves."

In other matches, No. 12 Amanda Coetzer of South Africa routed Francesca

Lubiani of Italy, 6-2, 6-1 and No. 15 Julie Halard of France beat Barbara Rittner of Germany 6-4, 6-2.

No. 8 Naoko Sawamatsu of Japan became the first seeded player to lose. She was beaten 6-3, 6-1 by Nathalie Baudone of Italy.

Other winners were Gigi Fernandez, Mana Endo of Japan, Rita Grande of Italy, and Florencia Labat of Argentina.

Edberg, Korda upset in Ohio

MASON, Ohio (AP) — Extended to a second-set tiebreaker, second-ranked Pete Sampras rediscovered his overpowering serve to beat Petr Korda in the second round of the \$1.8 million ATP championship on Tuesday night.

"I got off to a good start, even though I didn't think I was hitting the ball that well," Sampras said of his 6-3, 7-6 (7-3) victory. "Then I let up a little bit. Once it let him back into the match, he played well."

Sampras' serve was clocked at over 190 kph, while his Czech opponent only reached the 160-kph range.

"I was not going for the big serve today," Korda said. "It's very important to get the first serve in against Pete because on the second serve he can come in and hit the big points."

In the other evening match, 11th-seeded Jim Courier beat Vince Spadea 7-5, (9-7). Earlier, Sandon Stolle of Australia pulled the upset of the day by beating

16th-ranked Stefan Edberg of Sweden 6-3, 6-1 in a first-round match.

Top-ranked and top-seeded Andre Agassi, third-seeded Boris Becker and two-time defending champion Michael Chang open play Wednesday.

For Edberg, a two-time ATP winner, it was the first time in 12 years he lost before the quarterfinals. Stolle, ranked 199th, overcame his early uncertainty to take advantage of Edberg's lack of concentration.

GOREN BRIDGE

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A TANNAN HIRSH
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WHAT ARE THE CHANCES?

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ A Q 8 4 3

♥ A 9 5

♦ 8 5 3 2

♣ 7

SOUTH

♠ K J 10 9 8 2

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The bidding:

South West North East

4 NT Pass 5 ♠ Pass

6 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠

There are some card combinations that occur, and are misplayed, with non-optimum regularity. What would you say are South's chances of bringing home six spades on this layout?

North's jump to three spades, in the partnership methods, was forcing. South went straight in Blackwood and, on locating two aces, contracted for 12 tricks—at worst, the small slam rated to depend on a side-suit finesse since, with a minimum of 10 trumps in the combined holding, the queen of trumps was unlikely to be a factor.

West led the queen of hearts. How would you calculate declarer's chances of landing 12 tricks?

If you said 50 percent or 75 percent, you are not even close. The contract can be claimed with correct technique.

No, the slam does not hinge on the club finesse. Win the ace of hearts and draw a round for two, if necessary of trumps. Ruff a heart, cash the ace of diamonds and sandwich a heart ruff between two diamond ruffs in dummy.

With the red suits eliminated, it is time to turn your attention to clubs. Lead a low club and simply cover any club that East plays. West can win as cheaply as possible, but is displayed. The defender's choices are to lead a red suit, permitting declarer to ruff on the table while discarding the queen of clubs from hand, or a club into declarer's major tenace, in which case there's no second club loser. This is a sure-trick line no matter how the outstanding clubs are divided. Try it.

Monica Seles to make tournament comeback in Canada next week

TORONTO (AP) — Monica Seles will return to tournament tennis next week, facing a strong field in the Canadian Open in Toronto in her first competition since being stabbed 28 months ago, her manager announced Tuesday.

Seles, who began her comeback by winning an exhibition against Martina Navratilova on July 29, will compete in the outdoor hardcourt tournament along with No. 1 Steffi Graf, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, Mary Pierce and other top 10 players.

The one-week, \$800,000 event opens Monday. Under an agreement with the women's tour, Seles will be co-ranked as top seed along with Graf. She will also be co-ranked No. 1 worldwide with the German.

Keith Motoch, a spokesman for tournament organizer Tennis Canada, said he could not confirm Seles' participation because no written confirmation had been received yet.

"We'd be delighted to have Monica Seles here," he said, noting that three wild card berths for the tournament remained unfilled. The dead-



Monica Seles (right) poses with Martina Navratilova before the start of their match at the Atlantic City Convention Centre. The match was the first public game Seles played after being stabbed at a tournament in Hamburg on April 30, 1993 (AFP photo).

line for completing the field is Friday, he said.

Seles already has confirmed she will play in the U.S. Open beginning Aug. 28.

Seles' manager, Stephanie Tolleson, coupled the announcement about the

Canadian Open with a denial of a promoter's claim that Seles would play in an exhibition in Mahwah, New Jersey.

"Monica played a number of years ago, and her name has been used to generate media attention ever since," Tolleson said. "She does not

intend to compete."

Seles was stabbed in the back April 30, 1993 in Hamburg, Germany, by an obsessed Graf fan. She beat Navratilova 6-3, 6-2 in her comeback last month, displaying impressive power and competitiveness.

McRae seeking 3rd straight win

KUALA LUMPUR (AFP)

Colin McRae will seek a third straight win in the Asia-Pacific championship when he takes his Subaru into the Malaysian rally on Saturday.

In the race for the driver's title, the Scot's 100 per cent record has opened up a 17 point gap between him and Sweden's Kenneth Eriksson. Wins in Indonesia and New Zealand have given the team a 23 point lead at the top of the manufacturers' table ahead of Mitsubishi, Toyota and Ford.

Colin's performances in New Zealand and Indonesia were superb," said Subaru chief David Richards. "He showed he has the makings of a true champion — thinking tactically and driving brilliantly. In this form he seems unbeatable."

McRae's team-mate, the Asia-Pacific title holder Possum Bourne is lying fourth in the drivers' standings, 26 points adrift of McRae but only one point behind Toyota's Didier Auriol of France.

Bourne admits his hopes of taking a third successive Asia-Pacific crown appear to be fading, but he had no intention of giving up the fight.

"In Indonesia I was unlucky. I lost a wheel mid-way through a special stage on the first day taking us right out of contention."

"Then in New Zealand I took a while to get back into my stride after a few teething troubles early on. But by the final day I was right back up with the pace. I now know the car and feel confident I'll be challenging for a win."

McRae and co-driver Derek Ringer will be hoping to repeat the victory in Malaysia two years ago. But they know it won't be easy.

Tyson plans to take McNeeley back to the future

LOS ANGELES (AFP) — Mike Tyson says he is not in the forecasting business, but he advises anyone wanting a prediction on the outcome of his comeback fight against Peter McNeeley to look to the past.

"I'm going to do my thing — you know what my thing is," Tyson said Tuesday at a press conference in Los Angeles, to hype the November 19 fight in Las Vegas.

"I'm looking forward to the fight," "I don't talk much like I used to. I'm very secure in what I can do," he said.

The former world heavyweight champion, 41-1 with 36 knock-outs, will be making his first appearance in the ring since June 28, 1991, and his first since serving a three-year sentence for rape.

He was released from an Indiana prison in March.

Just last week he opened his training camp for the first time, and it appeared that trainer Jay Bright's claim that Tyson was in about the best shape of his career was not idle talk.

Tyson looked relaxed, sometimes bored, on Tuesday as promoter Don King presided over a mammoth pre-fight press conference featuring Tyson, McNeeley, and six other fighters featured on the same card along with their assorted managers and representatives of the MGM Grand hotel and casino in Las Vegas and the Showtime cable and pay-per-view television network.

Though Tyson and McNeeley's 10-round bout is the top draw, three other world championship fights, including Bruce Seldon's defence of his World Boxing Association heavyweight crown against Joe Hipp, are scheduled.

On the same card, World Boxing Council lightweight champion Miguel Angel Gonzalez of Mexico will defend his title against Lamar

Murphy and WBC middleweight champion Julian Jackson will defend his title against Quincy Taylor.

McNeeley, the WBA's seventh-ranked contender and the WBC's Number 10, stepped up to the microphone to repeat his prediction that he would knock out Tyson.

The 26-year-old from Boston, who brings a record of 36-1 with 30 knock-outs into the ring, pledged to "wrap Mike Tyson in a cocoon of horror," a prediction that caused the former champion to stop fiddling with a pen and give a sceptical grin.

McNeeley said anyone expecting him to give Tyson a leg-up on his return would be disappointed.

"All you people out there have been abusing me and disrespecting me — keep it up, I love it," he said.

"From my first amateur fight, my first pro fight people have been dumping me... But I keep coming back. I'm like the thing that wouldn't leave. On August 19, I'm going to get some respect."

Tyson was quick to dispel any idea that he might be wary of returning to the ring.

Asked if he was concerned that his body might not be up to the punishment of a 10-round fight since he hadn't been hit hard in four years, Tyson shot back "I hadn't been hit too much when I was fighting, either."

As for his strategy: "Just to win in spectacular fashion. You know me. I'm not a spring chicken in this business. You know what I do."

Tyson kept his remarks short, though he did speak of his conversion to Islam while in prison.

"I'm just happy to find Islam and become a good brother," he said. "I really enjoy my life better now than I did before."

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Tokyo police officers try to remove anti-nuclear protesters from a street leading to the French embassy in the Japanese capital. The protesters were trying to march on the embassy

to commemorate the anniversary of the atomic bombing of Nagasaki and protest the French decision to resume nuclear tests (AFP photo)

Plea bargain reported in Oklahoma blast

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — A former army buddy of Oklahoma City bombing suspect Timothy McVeigh has made a deal with prosecutors to plead guilty to lesser charges in exchange for testifying for the government, his attorney said Tuesday.

Michael Fortier, of Kingman, Arizona, will admit he took part in the plot to bomb the Oklahoma City federal building and will testify against Mr. McVeigh, his court-appointed attorney, Michael McGuire, told the Daily Oklahoman for a story in Wednesday's editions.

The grand jury investigating the bombing is under a Friday deadline to indict Mr. McVeigh and Mr. Terry Nichols, the only two charged in the April 19 terrorist attack that killed 168 people and injured more than 500.

Mr. Fortier spent almost four hours testifying before the federal grand jury Tuesday, Mr. McGuire said. "He's an important witness to both sides really," Mr. McGuire said.

Mr. Fortier will plead guilty to lying to federal agents, knowing about a felony but doing nothing to stop it and interstate transportation of stolen weapons, Mr. McGuire said. Media reports said he would also plead to a second weapons charge.

Under federal law, anyone who knowingly helps in the commission of a crime can be charged as a principal in that crime, which could have given prosecutors the threat of the death penalty to hold over Mr. Fortier's head.

The offences carry a maximum punishment of 23 years, but Mr. McGuire said Mr. Fortier's actual punishment is expected to be less under federal sentencing guidelines.

Mr. McGuire said Mr. Fortier has completed his testimony.

"He was in a totally different situation than the other two (McVeigh and Nichols)," Mr. McGuire said of his client's plea agreement. "I did not get everything that I wanted, but I tried to do the best I could under the circumstances."

Also Tuesday, Mr. Fortier's 23-year-old wife, Lori, testified for about two hours before the grand jury. She was compelled to testify under a grant of immunity but is not a target of the investigation, her attorney, Mack Martin, said.

Federal prosecutors meanwhile were planning to drop material witness charges against Mr. Nichols' brother James, a Michigan farmer arrested two days after the bombing, NBC News reported.

James Nichols was charged with helping his brother detonate small bombs on his farm, charges not related to the Oklahoma explosion.

NBC quoted unnamed officials as saying that dropping the charges against James Nichols would focus the bombing case on the strongest evidence.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Rafsanjani urges greater ties with S. Africa

TEHRAN (AFP) — Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani called Wednesday for stronger ties with Pretoria as he met the first South African ambassador here since the 1979 Islamic revolution. Mr. Rafsanjani told Musa Moolah that Iran and South Africa "must reinforce their ties" despite "opposition from certain countries," in a reference to the United States. "It is possible that certain oppressors would oppose development of cooperation between our two countries," he said. "But independent states should base their relations on mutual interests." The United States has expressed concern about growing economic contacts between Tehran and Pretoria, notably a multi-million dollar deal that allows Tehran to store 15 million barrels of crude oil in South Africa. On Friday Washington asked Pretoria to renounce the deal, arguing that Tehran should not be allowed to benefit from its oil revenues so long as it supported international terrorism. Washington has imposed an economic embargo on Tehran and urged its allies to follow suit. However, its call received a cool response from industrial countries, including South Africa. Tehran and Pretoria reestablished diplomatic relations after President Nelson Mandela's election in April 1994. Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati is to make an official visit to South Africa this month in the latest sign of improving relations between the two countries.

Ciller heads for C. Asia to reinforce ties

ANKARA (AFP) — Prime Minister Tansu Ciller is to head for Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan next week as part of Turkey's bid to strengthen ties with the Turkic-speaking republics of the former Soviet Union, an official said Wednesday. The trip will be Ms. Ciller's first to be three states since she took office in June 1993, and comes a month after visits to Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan, also Muslim and Turkic-speaking republics. Foreign Ministry spokesman Nurettin Nurkan said the trip "comes within the framework of good relations with those countries, and our big interest in the area." "We are planning to develop our relations with Central Asia," he added. He said Ms. Ciller would spend two days in each of the three states as of Aug. 14, at the invitations of Presidents Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan, Askar Akayev of Kyrgyzstan and Saparmurad Niyazov of Turkmenistan.

Bombs hurled at Turkish shop in Germany

BONN (R) — Petrol bombs were hurled at a Turkish food shop in southern Germany overnight but no one was hurt and damage was slight, police said on Wednesday. German authorities have blamed Kurdish extremists for a series of attacks on Turkish properties in the past three weeks. The latest attack took place in Oberhausen-Rheinhausen near the city of Karlsruhe. Police said they had no direct evidence on who was responsible for the attack, but added it may have been members or sympathisers of the banned Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) which is fighting for independence or autonomy in southeastern Turkey. German officials have said the PKK has been primarily responsible for dozens of attacks on Turkish properties in the past three weeks. Turkey, concerned about the safety of two million Turks living in Germany, has urged Germany to crack down on the PKK. Bonn banned the PKK in 1993 after a series of violent protests.

Court clears way for hijacker's extradition

OSLO (AP) — Norway's highest court on Tuesday cleared the way for the extradition of a Palestinian hijacker to Germany, where she is charged with commanding a Lufthansa jetliner 18 years ago. Justice Minister Grethe Faremo now will have to decide whether to send Suhailah Al Sayeh to Germany. The government has indicated it will extradite Ms. Sayeh, despite her attempts to block an extradition. Ms. Sayeh was arrested in Oslo last October in connection with the hijacking of the Lufthansa airliner in Spain in 1977. She was the only survivor among the four hijackers, after German anti-terror police stormed the plane in Mogadishu, Somalia. Ms. Sayeh, who is known in Norway by the name of Souhailah Andrawes, was arrested after 17 years on the run. She disappeared after serving a two-year prison term in Somalia. When she was arrested, she had been living in Oslo for three years with her Palestinian husband and daughter.

Uganda minister urges incursions into Sudan

KAMPALA (AFP) — Uganda's defence minister is seeking authorisation for the army to attack Ugandan rebels in neighbouring Sudan, the official New Vision newspaper reported Wednesday. The minister, Kahinda Otafiire, told a parliamentary security committee on Tuesday that he wanted the National Resistance Council (parliament) to grant permission for the army to start fighting the rebels inside Sudan. He said the army was ready to pursue the rebels inside Sudan "any time," the newspaper reported, but that "we cannot wage war without authority." Uganda broke diplomatic ties with Sudan in April after accusations by each country that the other was aiding rebels. The decision to sever relations followed months of bitter recriminations, with Uganda accusing Sudan of backing the Lord's Resistance Army, a Christian fundamentalist rebel movement fighting from northern bases to topple the government of President Yoweri Museveni. Sudan denied the allegations and accused Uganda of aiding the Christian and animist Sudan People's Liberation Army, which has been battling Khartoum government troops since 1983 to free southern Sudan from domination by the Muslim, Arabised north.

France under strong pressure over A-tests

SYDNEY (Agencies) — Japan and Australia stepped up their war of words with France on Wednesday after it shrugged off a New Zealand threat to go to the International Court over its planned South Pacific nuclear test programme.

Japanese Foreign Minister Yohsei Kono warned France's decision to resume nuclear tests next month might harm bilateral links.

"France is one of the European countries which have a long relationship with Japan," he told reporters. "Since Japan and France have enjoyed good relations up to now, it would be regrettable if a problem such as this were to harm the ties."

But he added: "The nuclear problem is not something that can be ignored."

Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating hit back at a personal attack on him by the right-wing newspaper Le Figaro, saying it showed contempt for Australian values and adding: "Maybe the French should have a good look at themselves."

In an article underscoring the bitterness of both sides in the nuclear debate, Le Figaro said Mr. Keating's recent attacks on France were motivated by a "fetishistic hatred" of France and a bad conscience over "ethnic cleansing" of Australia's indigenous population.

A spokesman for Mr. Keating dismissed the article as "offensive, inaccurate and irrelevant." He said it was "a vindictive response by a right-wing newspaper to the

obvious international disapproval of the French government's decision."

Le Figaro editor Franz-Olivier Giesbert accused Mr. Keating of turning the nuclear issue into a broader anti-French campaign for political reasons.

"One is left speechless when faced with the fetishistic hatred of your government towards us," he said, claiming Mr. Keating's ulterior motive was that he wanted Australia to "dominate the South Pacific."

The prime minister's spokesman referred to Mr. Keating's well-known love of French culture and art for which he is frequently lampooned by Australian cartoonists and columnists, saying: "To suggest that he hates France would surprise most Australian journalists."

France has made clear it was undaunted by continuing international pressure to stop the test going ahead by dismissing as domestic politicking New Zealand's threat to go to the International Court of Justice in the Hague.

A French foreign ministry spokesman said both sides had to consent to take a dispute to the International Court and in the case of France there was no such agreement.

France's European Affairs Minister Michel Barnier said "the internal political motives" of Australia and New Zealand had to be taken into account in their agitation.

Gaston Flosse, leader of French Polynesia where the tests will be conducted, and

close ally of President Jacques Chirac, meantime gave an assurance that France would not bring forward its first nuclear test to this month.

Aboriginal community spokeswoman Lois O'Donoghue issued a statement supporting the government's opposition to French nuclear testing and deploring the article in Le Figaro.

Ms. O'Donoghue, who chairs the Aboriginal and Torres Islander Commission, said: "The facts of our history and how they impact on our lives today are undeniable, but we don't like to see them cynically appropriate by another nation whose own record as a colonial does not bear much scrutiny."

"Modern Australia is making great strides in coming to terms with its history," she added. "A great deal is being done to make our issues central to national life and politics. The same cannot be said of the French in the South Pacific."

A leading New Zealand government scientist said French nuclear tests at Mururoa atoll posed no harm to the environment.

The director of the National Radiation Laboratory, Andrew McEwan, said France's 46 underground tests to date at Mururoa and Fangatafa had a total yield that was less than three megatonnes.

He noted several of the 164 atmospheric tests conducted by France in the 1960s and 1970s were of the order of three megatonnes.

U.S. study: France leading arms seller

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The United States, which has dominated arms sales to the Third World since the Gulf war, has given up the lead to France, according to a new study.

The study by the Congressional Research Service, which works exclusively for the U.S. Congress, revealed that arms sales by France went from \$3.8 billion in 1993 to \$11.4 billion last year.

In contrast, U.S. sales to developing countries in 1994 stood at \$6.1 billion, after plummeting from \$15.4 billion the year before.

A parallel study by a U.S. advocacy group called the Project for Demilitarisation and Democracy expressed concern over the fact that the overwhelming majority of clients for U.S. arms are non-democratic regimes.

The Congressional Research Service study found that arms shipments to developing countries account for 71 per cent of global arms sales, which total about \$25 billion.

Since 1990 and the Gulf war, the study said, "The U.S. has been notably suc-

cessful in securing the new arms sales orders from wealthy developing nations in the Near East and Asia. Saudi Arabia, the largest U.S. client in recent years, is also having notable budget difficulties."

However, the Middle East remains the biggest purchaser of arms with Saudi Arabia alone according to as much as \$9.5 billion dollars in contracts last year.

The only noteworthy sales made last year by the Americans was a contract to sell Israel 25 F-15 fighters for 2.4 billion dollars, and the sale of 18 F-16 fighters in Singapore for 890 million dollars.

France for its part sold Agosta submarines to Pakistan, Mirage 2000-5 to Qatar and Lafayette frigates to Saudi Arabia, according to the study.

This demonstrates the importance of a few particularly good deals, according to the study's authors, who said 1994 was an extraordinary year for France.

"Since major West European suppliers, such as

(Continued on page 7)

16 killed in rocket attacks on Kabul

KABUL (AFP) — Sixteen civilians were killed and 26 wounded when a salvo of long-range rockets rained onto a southwest suburb of Kabul Wednesday, the first such incident in more than four months, security officials said.

"Eight members of one family alone were killed last night," said commander Abdul Waheed.

A salvo of 21 long-range rockets was fired on the Karte Se district in the early hours from the direction of Taliban-controlled areas, he said.

The exact location where the rockets originated was not clear.

The nearest frontline between Taliban and presidential forces is 35 kilometres south of Kabul at Arghandah, from where the capital is out of range of the 122 mm rockets said to have been used in the attack, analysts said.

Eight houses were hit and destroyed in the barrage, the first since the Taliban were pushed out of Kabul in March, Mr. Waheed said.

Three rockets smashed into the home of Abdul Ghafoor, who died in the attack with one of his wives and six children.

"The heads of two of the children are still in the rubble," a shocked neighbour, who had helped at the rescue, told an AFP correspondent. "The only survivors were

Ghafoor's second wife and one child. It was merciless slaughter."

Doctors at the nearby Karte Se surgical hospital treated 19 wounded with 12 bodies carried there soon after the attack began, hospital staff said.

A rocket exploded in front of the main door of the hospital's medical supply depot, but caused no losses, they said.

Doctors said the wounded began arriving 10 minutes after the rockets started at 1:20 a.m.

Meanwhile, a Russian cargo plane carrying military supplies for Afghanistan's government was intercepted by rebels and forced to land in their stronghold of Kandahar, the Russian ITAR-TASS news agency reported Wednesday.

In a despatch out of New Delhi citing Afghan officials, the agency said the aircraft's crew of seven was detained August 3 in the region controlled by the Taliban movement.

The pilot of the Ilyushin-76 said it belonged to the Air-stan company based in Kazan, capital of the Russian republic of Tatarstan.

Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Mikhail Demurin told Moscow Echoes radio the ministry had called for Afghan authorities to "take urgent action" to free the crew.

Woman guns down Algerian policeman

ALGIERS (Agencies) — A suspected Muslim extremist shot and killed a traffic police officer in central Algiers, the daily La Tribune reported Wednesday, saying it was the first such attack by a woman.

"The well-dressed woman, who appeared to be less than 30, shot the officer as he was leaving his home (Tuesday) and then fled," the paper said. "Two male accomplices provided cover."

La Tribune said that women in the past have been arrested for supporting extremist factions or have been caught in the crossfire during raids by police, but have so far not been directly involved in attacks blamed on fundamentalists.

The daily Liberte reported Wednesday that 160 women had been assassinated in Algeria so far this year by extremists, according to figures released by security police.

In 1994, 211 women were killed, police said, adding that most of them had been raped and their bodies mutilated.

On Tuesday the body of a woman journalist who had been mutilated and disfigured was identified by police, another newspaper reported.

The journalist, Aicha Benamar, 36, had been kidnapped a week earlier as she was heading home in the town of Soula, an Islamist stronghold southwest of the capital.

Authorities have not confirmed the killing.

Journalists, teachers and politicians have been a prime target of fundamentalists waging a war to unseat the military-backed government in Algeria. The extremist launched their campaign in January 1992 after the military cancelled the second round of general elections the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) was poised to win.

A car bomb killed at least one person in Algiers on Tuesday night, Radio France Internationale reported.

The Radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation in London, quoted an Algerian correspondent as saying the blast occurred at an administrative building in the residential district of Ben Aknoun.

Investigators said the device had been planted inside the main administration building in Ben Aknoun. According to initial reports the explosion, which destroyed the building, had been caused by a booby-trapped car.

The blast occurred around 8:00 p.m. (1900 GMT), sources said.

COLUMN

Prince Philip upsots Scots with booze remark

LONDON (R) — Britain's Prince Philip is in trouble again after making an off-the-cuff remark which appeared to suggest the residents of a Scottish town were drunkards, newspapers said Wednesday. "How do you keep the natives off the booze long enough to pass the (driving) test?" Queen Elizabeth's husband was reported to have asked a driving instructor Tuesday in the town of Oban on Scotland's west coast. The area is known for fine whisky. The 74-year-old prince, who has a reputation for gaffes, and his wife were visiting Oban for the first time since 1956. The driving instructor, Robert Drummond, dismissed Prince Philip's remark as a joke. He, the chairman of the local tourist board, Allan McKie, told the Times: "I am disappointed. I am sure he said it as a joke. I hope people interpret it as such. But the so-called natives in this part of the world helped make this royal visit one of the successes of the decade for the town."

It is no harder a drinking town than any other town in the west of Scotland or come to that in Scotland," Alex Salmon, leader of the Scottish National Party which wants political independence for Scotland, told the Daily Telegraph. "I think he may have succeeded in getting some of the natives rather restless."

Prince Philip is a member of the House of Windsor, the royal family of the United Kingdom.

He is the son of Prince Albert, Duke of Edinburgh, and Princess Elizabeth, Queen of the United Kingdom.

He is the husband of Queen Elizabeth II.

He is the father of Prince Charles, Prince of Wales, and Prince William, Duke of Cambridge.

He is the grandfather of Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex, and Prince Louis, Duke of Cambridge.

He is the great-grandfather of Prince Archie, Duke of Sussex, and Prince Livia, Duchess of Cambridge.

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